

BAY AREA REPORTER

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(Photo: S. Martin)

A Day At The Fair



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Today

FRANKLY SPEAKING: Openly gay Congressman Barney Frank of Massachusetts called current federal AIDS funding "adequate" in an interview with Tim Taylor. **Page 3.**

ON THE FENCE: The Toklas Democratic Club again split and failed to endorse in the upcoming Nov. 3 mayor's race. Both John Molinari and Art Agnos claimed victory. **Page 5.**

WHAT'S LOVE got to do with it? Nothing, says the winner of a \$2.3 million "palimony" verdict in S.F. court. The case was won on simple contract law, he says. **Page 12.**

DRUG RESEARCH will begin at the state level in the quest for an AIDS cure. California becomes the first state to review drugs itself, in a slap at the federal FDA. **Page 19.**

Making Hay From AIDS

★ Republicans Plan A Scare Campaign

Memos Reveal Strategy for '88

by Jay Newquist

An AIDS scare campaign is being considered by state and national Republicans as a strategy to unseat Democrats who are sympathetic to the health crisis. A San Francisco consulting firm under contract to the Republican Party has proposed a plan to "incite a public groundswell" against Democratic candidates who are perceived "soft" on AIDS issues.

In a series of confidential memos obtained by the Bay Area Reporter, a local consulting firm hired by the Republicans recommends a careful approach to whip up AIDS hysteria.

"(We must) sound reasonable, play for emotion," the memos report, "and above all make it appear as if the [Republican] party is responding to a public groundswell."

(Continued on Page 14)

★ LaRouchites Begin New Prop. 64 Push

Already Gathering Signatures

by Jay Newquist

The same Lyndon LaRouche supporters who put Proposition 64 on the ballot last year have proposed a new initiative urging quarantine for carriers of the AIDS virus.

Brian Lantz and Khusro Ghandi quietly filed AIDS Initiative Statute #395 last summer with California's Secretary of State. The remaining acolytes of LaRouche's crumbling empire must gather at least 372,178 signatures to qualify for the November 1988 ballot.

Lantz and Ghandi, who saw Prop. 64 lose 71.29 percent in 1986, provided the Elections Division with only a Livermore post office box drop as an address. They are not listed in local telephone directories.

A spokesman for the Political Reform Division reported that

(Continued on page 2)

★ Feinstein Considers Mandatory Testing

But Tells Health Panel to Decide

by Ray O'Loughlin

San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein is urging that city agencies consider expanding HIV testing programs, including mandatory testing in some cases. Feinstein made her remarks in her final State of the City report, delivered to the Board of Supervisors Oct. 5.

"I believe that certain confidential testing or mandatory educational programs may be appropriate and beneficial—and should be considered," wrote Feinstein. Feinstein is believed by many to be running for governor in 1990.

She listed four groups where testing is to be expanded. They are members of high risk groups using venereal disease clinics,

abortion, family planning and drug programs; persons undergoing surgery; prisoners in jail; and marriage license applicants.

Asked if that meant the mayor was proposing widespread mandatory testing or expanded voluntary testing, press aide Tom Eastham said, "I presume both or either. The mayor is saying that such programs may be ap-

(Continued on page 2)



Yes, it can happen again

LaRouche

(Continued from page 1)

Lantz and Chandi are apparently not yet raising money because they haven't reported contributions, as required by law.

'It's a terrible waste of time to deal with these extremists, but we have to be careful.'

—Leonard Graff

A summary of the new AIDS initiative, provided by the Attorney General, states that the names of carriers of HTLV-III virus would be placed on a list of reportable diseases.

The initiative provides that each carrier is subject to quarantine and isolation statutes and regulations.

ALREADY ACTIVE

The LaRouche people are already circulating petitions in Orange and Contra Costa Counties to qualify for the ballot, but they will likely avoid a beachhead in San Francisco as they did with Prop. 64.

amount on the slips and diverting the overpayments to Lyndon LaRouche's presidential campaign.

Other LaRouche activists are under indictment in Virginia on similar charges. The elusive LaRouche himself was last reported in West Germany.

ingly defeated. But I'm afraid the climate in the legislature is as though Prop. 64 was never defeated," Jennings said.

"Doolittle has had wide support from politicians who don't want to appear too conciliatory to the gay community," Jennings said.

'This latest initiative is as serious as the last one despite the fact Prop. 64 was so overwhelmingly defeated.'

—Anne Jennings

Should all this LaRouche paranoia be taken seriously?

"It's a terrible waste of time to deal with these extremists, but we have to watch out and be careful," said Leonard Graff of National Gay Right Advocates.

"It may just be a continuation of LaRouche policies to whip up hysteria in the state, but they did get enough signatures the last time," Graff said.

"They're appealing to people who react on an emotional level about the spread of AIDS. They're grasping at straws."

Graff suggested that the gay and lesbian community should monitor the LaRouche effort closely to assure they are obtaining signatures in a legal fashion.

He encouraged gay people to counter the quarantine propaganda with their own public information program. When and where the LaRouche types set up shop to get signatures, gays should be right there, Graff said.

A SERIOUS THREAT

Anne Jennings, gay community liaison on the Attorney General's staff, said she had debated Brian Lantz during the Prop. 64 campaign.

"He's a lunatic," she said. "He has the skill to sound normal and then slide into controlled hysteria."

Lantz is, however, not to be ignored, Jennings said.

"This latest initiative is as serious as the last one despite the fact Prop. 64 was so overwhelm-

Jennings added the erosion of gay support in the Assembly has created a climate where gay people have to fight harder than ever to secure those rights they deserve.

She envisioned that the gay reaction against this latest AIDS initiative might not make as many headlines as Prop. 64, but it was equally important.

Carole Migden, chair of the city Democratic Central Committee, said she was depressed that the gay community would once



Lyndon LaRouche

again have to mobilize against this latest threat.

"It's a hateful thing. It bleeds our resources from where they should be applied to fight AIDS," she said.

"You always have to take it seriously when people mount an assault against you," Migden said. •

Feinstein

(Continued from page 1)



Dianne Feinstein
(Photo: M. Hicks)

proper and should be considered."

But Eastham denied that Feinstein was endorsing mandatory testing. "She is not proposing mandatory testing," he said. "She is offering a number of options that she thinks should be considered."

Feinstein is due to send to the city Health Commission specific recommendations to implement her proposal. That commission has already gone on record opposing all forms of mandatory testing, according to commission member Jim Foster.

"I hope the commission retains that position," said Foster.

He indicated that Feinstein would have a battle on her hands if she decides to push forced testing.

"I do think that anything that encourages anonymous, voluntary testing should be supported," said Foster, "but I am adamantly opposed to forced testing."

'ALL STEPS NECESSARY'

Foster believes that any mandatory testing plan would not be

well received by the Board of Supervisors either. "Should the mayor choose to suggest a mandatory testing program, I don't believe the Board of Supervisors would move with any great dispatch to implement it," said Foster.

The mayor cited the expanding number of AIDS cases in San Francisco as the basis for her concern. "We have a clear responsibility to take all steps necessary to prevent the spread of this deadly virus—including considering certain areas of testing," wrote Feinstein. She said that less threatening diseases are already tested for, making it "imperative that the public be further protected against...this century's worst health menace."

In her message, Feinstein estimated that by 1990, the Bay Area AIDS population will number 3,850. She also cited a Gallup Poll that estimated 90 percent of Americans supported some mandatory testing. Feinstein is believed to be positioning herself for a run for governor in 1990.

"It concerns me increasingly that testing for the AIDS virus has become controversial," wrote Feinstein.

"I believe that as a public health measure, limited confidential testing can have a positive impact on health maintenance to prevent the medical consequences of unknowingly spreading the disease," said the mayor.

"The key to leadership," said Feinstein, "is how to provide testing that protects the civil rights of those already ill or infected and prevents the spread of a disease that is 100 percent fatal."

Feinstein urged "as a highest priority" that state and federal laws ban discrimination in housing, jobs, and medical insurance against those who test positive to HIV.

The mayor said that voluntary testing should be expanded so that people do not have to wait four weeks as is presently the case. She also urged an end to free tests. Those able to pay should be required to do so, she said. •

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**The Fight For Our Rights Goes On.
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Barney Frank Speaks Out

How Do You Succeed In Congress? By Being 'Strategically Sensible'

by Tim Taylor

Barney Frank—the blunt, outspoken four-term Congressman from Massachusetts—is a self-styled "strategically sensible" politician whose liberalism is tempered, he says, by a strong sense of pragmatism. This year he became the second member of the House of Representatives to publicly acknowledge being gay. The other is his Bay State colleague, Rep. Gerry Studds.

In a recent interview with the Bay Area Reporter, Frank called AIDS research funding "adequate" while education is bogged down in ideology. He also rap- ped those who favor "preferential treatment" of people with AIDS over comprehensive health insurance for all. And he defended his backing of Gov. Michael Dukakis for president.

According to Frank, "We're in reasonable shape on [AIDS] research. Over Reagan's objections we got research funding that's adequate," Frank said.

He noted, however, that adequacy is in the eye of the beholder. "It's nice to be adequate, but if you meet someone in a bar that you like and you find out he's just adequate, that's not the best thing. But I haven't seen anyone saying important areas of research are being neglected because we don't have enough money. So that's adequate."

On education and prevention programs, he said the problem is not money. Programs are bogged down in an ideological quagmire. "Right wing ideologues" are standing in the way of plainly worded education programs that seek to inform the public on the transmission of AIDS, he said.

"The right wing has decided to use the AIDS crisis as a way to get its ideological stuff across. They have been interfering with sensible public health," charged Frank.

That interference has blocked meaningful initiatives, he said. "You can prevent an administration from doing bad things. You can't make them do good things. You can't force them to do good education."

Referring to efforts by California Republicans to censor educational materials, Frank said the effort to prosecute safe-sex brochures "unfortunately is becoming more and more representative of where the Republicans are."

Frank also sees little fiscal relief for cities reeling under the burden of providing services for people with AIDS. "There will be some help for cities. But what do we say? People with AIDS should get federal help, but people with cancer shouldn't?"

Frank says the solution is national health insurance. "I think it is a mistake for gay people to argue for federal help only for AIDS patients who need medical care, as opposed to a humane system that will provide medical assistance across the board.

"Do you really believe that we should say that if you are an unemployed steel worker with three kids, and your health insurance lapses, that the federal government shouldn't help you if your kid gets Hodgkin's disease? But that if a 42-year-old gay man with a lover gets AIDS, he should get it? Why do you want to say that?"

"I think it's a mistake both morally and strategically to argue that people with AIDS should get preferential treatment. I think we should be pushing for medical

treatment for other people as well."

Frank doubts there is sufficient political will in Congress to pass AIDS antidiscrimination legislation such as the omnibus Kennedy-Waxman bill. "Clearly most members of Congress know we're right, but whether they're ready to vote that way, I don't know."

Although Frank says he is not a major participant in presidential politics, he has endorsed Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis. He attributes his support in part to home-state politics, and a sense that Dukakis "is as good on the issues as any of the candidates." The endorsement has raised eyebrows among some gay leaders, because Duk-

akis has come under fire for promulgating a foster-care policy that excludes lesbians and gay men as foster parents.

But Frank counters that none of the presidential candidates has an unblemished record on gay rights issues and notes that "there are no sponsors of the gay rights bill running for Congress." He adds, "All the Democrats are significantly better than all of the Republicans."

Frank is an activist in immigration law issues, and has been a part of negotiations to try to mitigate the harsh requirements that automatically exclude lesbians and gay men from visiting or immigrating to the U.S.

Although the Reagan adminis-



Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.)

(Photo: Rink)

stration falls short of Carter's policy of not enforcing the entry ban, Frank said he has won a commitment that border officials "will not enforce the anti-gay policy vigorously. If two guys show up in moustaches and

addresses, they won't ask" about sexual orientation.

Gay issues have taken a back seat at the Supreme Court confirmation hearings of Judge Robert Bork, and Frank vigorously de-

(Continued on next page)

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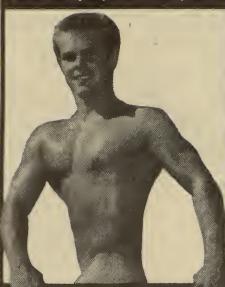
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I Cannot Tell a Lie

by Tim Taylor

One of the worst kept secrets in Washington, D.C. was Barney Frank's being gay. The bachelor congressman would squire male dates to congressional functions, introducing them to the Speaker of the House and others. And he would move frequently in gay social circles. Still, as long as Frank refrained from an overt public acknowledgement of his sexual orientation, others were similarly discreet.

The secret was facilitated by a quiet understanding with a Boston newspaper whose reporters agreed not to make sex an issue as long as Frank refrained to give them an exclusive interview if he decided to make a public disclosure.

Frank's sanctuary from unwanted exposure was threatened this year as a prying media began to delve into the private lives of public officials. In the wake of news stories about Gary Hart's sexual trysts, Frank said, "The Hart thing made me realize (reporters) would be asking me a lot more."

While Hart's indiscretions provided the catalyst for Frank's ultimate acknowledgement, it was not the principal reason for his decision. That was provided by Connecticut Rep. Stewart McKinney who died earlier this year of AIDS. The death of the married Republican lawmaker was accompanied by press speculation about how he had contracted the virus.

The controversy made Frank uncomfortable and finally brought him out of the closet. "I could get hit by a car tomorrow," Frank said. "I wouldn't want to have this 'was he, wasn't he' (speculation) as though (being gay) was something I was trying to cover up or was ashamed of."

Frank let the press know of his change of heart telling a reporter



Three women check the routes before taking off Sunday, Oct. 4 on their bicycles. The event was a Bike-a-Thon for the benefit of the Women's Training Center Defense Fund. According to the WTC's Betty Doza, there was a disappointing turnout of only 15 riders for the event, which covered routes of 25 and 50 miles.

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

18th Street Services Launches Fund Campaign

Eighteenth Street Services, the non-profit substance abuse counseling agency for gay men in San Francisco, has outgrown its current space and is planning a move to larger quarters. With the AIDS epidemic increasing the demand for its services, the agency can no longer meet the need with its current space and has leased a building at 130 Church Street (the former No on 64 headquarters across from Safeway).

The move will not occur, however, until the agency can raise the approximately \$100,000 needed for remodeling and equipment.

The new building is essential-

ly a shell at present. Walls and doors will need to be erected to create the individual counseling rooms, and other remodeling will need to be accomplished before the space is usable. The estimated cost of this remodeling is \$100,000. 18th Street Services will receive no governmental funding for this work, and consequently it will have to go to the gay and lesbian community for support.

A major fundraising campaign is planned to begin immediately. Construction cannot begin until this campaign is successful, and no move can occur until the needed funds are raised. Community

Frank

(Continued from previous page)

fends the strategy of the anti-Bork members of Congress that has made gay concerns virtually invisible.

"Why is it wrong to be strategically sensible? Is the purpose to educate the Senate about gay rights, or beat Bork?" Frank asked.

Frank notes that lawmakers who are undecided on the Bork nomination are unlikely to be swayed by gay rights issues. "Are you going to get Howell Heflin on gay rights?" Frank asked referring to the Alabama Democrat.

Frank also notes that senators who would base their vote upon Bork's anti-gay record are already committed to oppose the nomination.

"The gay rights issue is not omitted," Frank said. "It's taken for granted."

He added "You fight for gay rights in its own context." He mentioned AIDS legislation, immigration reform and anti-gay violence as areas where gay community issues are actively considered. "It's not that there is a pattern of people saying don't bring up the gay issue, because people bring it up in other contexts."

Frank will be present in Washington during the Lesbian and Gay March on Washington, even though he is not comfortable with all the activities. "I will stress the parts I want," he says.

He sees a conflict between his oath as a public official to uphold the law and the civil disobedience scheduled to occur on the steps of the United States Supreme Court.

He adds, "I think I will manage to dissociate myself from The Wedding without being expressly critical of it."

support is essential.

Over the years 18th Street Services has been a major force for recovery in the San Francisco gay and lesbian community. Many alcoholics and addicts got their start on the road to personal recovery from 18th Street Services.

Now, 18th Street Services is hoping that those members of the community, as well as their friends and others who see the tremendous need for substance abuse counseling services for gay men in this time of AIDS, will come to the support of the agency.

For more information, call 861-4898.

Alice Deadlocks Again, Will Sit Out Mayor's Race

by Tim Taylor

The Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club—its membership ranks bloated by candidate-sponsored recruitment drives—failed in its second attempt to endorse in the Nov. 3 mayor's election. The city's largest political club will be sidelined during the most competitive race for mayor in a decade.

At a meeting filled with bitter rhetoric, John Molinari led the balloting with 384 votes, 53 percent of the total. Sixty percent approval is required to win an endorsement.

Agnos trailed with 335 votes, or 46 percent. Four votes were cast for no endorsement or write-in candidates. Roger Boas was not on the club's run-off ballot.

The split in the club was virtually identical to a vote in July, when Alice members first deadlocked in the heated battle to win the endorsement.

But the roster of members has grown dramatically in the three months since that vote, with 1,178 people eligible to participate at Tuesday's meeting. There were 684 members in July, and only 261 in February.

Alice president Roberto Esteves described the outcome as a



Both Art Agnos (l.) and John Molinari (r.) claimed victory as Alice members (c.) counted the votes (Photo: Rink)

"win-win" situation for Molinari and Agnos.

Esteves said, "Molinari maintained his 53 percent majority and Agnos was able to continue to block an endorsement. Both campaigns are ecstatic because both got what they wanted."

He added the divisions within Alice illustrate the dilemma facing gay and lesbian voters. A

Molinari supporter, Esteves observed Molinari and Agnos "are both good candidates and they both deserve the support of the gay community."

Dennis Collins, an aide to Molinari, said he considered the vote "a great victory. If we wind up with 53 percent of the gay vote in November, we'll be very happy."

Despite a 49-vote lag behind

the front-runner, Agnos advisor Scott Shafer said, "We're delighted with the outcome. It's satisfying to come away with a draw in a club that has been historically aligned with Molinari."

Collins asserts that before the recruitment drives by both candidates began, "Alice belonged to Jack Molinari. We're talking about a club that is not Alice at this point," he said, referring to

the deadlock in the inflated membership ranks.

Molinari and Agnos are headed to a November showdown with both claiming significant gay and lesbian support.

Molinari has been endorsed by Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, the Stonewall Democratic Club and the Non-partisan Alliance. The Milk Democratic Club has endorsed Agnos.

NGLTF Hosts Natl. Town Mtg.

A national Town Meeting on Sex and Politics will be hosted by the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Oct. 10, the Saturday before the National March On Washington for Lesbian & Gay Rights. The town meeting will focus on gay and lesbian sexuality today, and will bring together a diverse panel of leading gay/lesbian writers, activists, and thinkers. Gay historian and academician John D'Emilio will moderate the panel. The Town Meeting Will be held at George Washington University.

A panel of four presenters is being assembled. Each presenter will deliver a prepared paper which will be followed by comments from two respondents. Time will be allowed for small group discussions; and a reception will follow the event.

For more information, contact: NGLTF Town Meeting, 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.

Unions Endorse Natl. March

The Labor Committee for October 11 has announced that AFSCME District Council 37, representing over 150,000 New York City workers, has endorsed the National March on Washington For Lesbian and Gay Rights to be held Sunday, Oct. 11. United Auto Workers District 65, another union that has been a leader in the civil rights, anti-apartheid and anti-war struggles, has also endorsed the march and is sponsoring a bus to transport members on Oct. 11.

A labor contingent of gay and straight trade unionists will march on Oct. 11 to demonstrate the growing commitment of labor to the lesbian and gay struggle and recognition of the importance of unity in the battle against discrimination and for action on AIDS.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION



(Photo: Rink)

Arlo Smith

There is no candidate opposing Arlo Smith in his bid for reelection, and this is sad. We think the office of district attorney is an important one in San Francisco, and there should have been some opposition to Arlo. Opposition is good, as it opens up dialogue on issues and lets us all ask questions and hope for some major changes within the department.

Arlo Smith has been good on many issues, among them victimless crime. He has insisted on tickets being issued on most misdemeanors in an effort to curb the zealousness of some of San Francisco's police. This has resulted in far less people spending a night in jail.

He has been very good in his hiring practices and the district attorney's office has a good representation of minorities including many gay men and lesbians in key positions.

But he has not done well in areas of consumer fraud and other consumer problems. This division does not respond rapidly enough and in many cases does not respond at all.

We have spoken to Mr. Smith and pointed out the faults we have noted and he promises to correct them, or has already taken measures to insure that some practices won't be repeated.

We certainly won't deny him an endorsement because he does or doesn't support a candidate we disagree with. We also would like to point

out that he has always responded to our phone calls with alacrity and answered our questions openly.

We think Arlo Smith will indeed make some necessary changes and we heartily endorse him for reelection.

Mike Hennessey

We are pleased to announce our support for the reelection of Mike Hennessey as San Francisco's sheriff.

During his tenure, Sheriff Hennessey has consistently endeavored to hire and utilize minority employees in the department. He has taken a lot of flak from some within the Sheriff's Department who don't like this kind of outreach. He has also been criticized by some members of the gay community within the department who are dissatisfied by some of his methods.

Nevertheless, we believe that he has done an outstanding job of integrating the entire Sheriff's Department from top to bottom. He has been very supportive of many programs within our community by giving his time, energy and money to these worthy causes.

He has earned your vote and we urge you to give him your vote, to say thank you. Reelect Sheriff Hennessey.



(Photo: Rink)

OPINION

Gays Ready to March Against Discrimination

by Tony Zampella

Thousands of lesbians and gays will gather Oct. 11 in the nation's capital. Why will America's homosexuals be exercising their constitutional rights to assembly and free speech?

To take a message to the nation and its leaders that we do not pose a threat to our nation and its values, but that our enemies certainly do. Their agenda is all too familiar—one of hate, fear, bigotry and hypocrisy against us, against freedom and against equality.

Lesbians and gays are, and in most societies have always been, denied the most basic rights as human beings: life, liberty, employment, housing, health and, most important, the right to be ourselves without fear.

We are told we are unfit to nurture our own children or adopt unwanted ones. We are taunted, beaten or rejected by the very families that raised us, all in the name of "morality."

The AIDS crisis is manipulated to advance this agenda. The professional homophobes and religious bigots seized upon AIDS from the start as a weapon with which to stop our fight for equal rights and equal treatment. The public has been frightened by irresponsible voices in the media and a lack of accurate information. Politicians pander to misguided fears, disregarding the plain facts of science and justice. President Reagan took a long time to address the AIDS crisis, offering instead of action the advice to "just say no" to sexuality.

Even though the overwhelming weight of medical evidence has established that AIDS is not transmitted by casual contact, the U.S. Department of Justice insists that employers have the "right" to fire workers with AIDS, AIDS-related complex or simply a positive test for exposure to the HIV believed to cause AIDS.

The officials say fear of contagion, whether scientifically or medically justified, is legal reason for dismissal.

It used to be that anti-gay bigotry and prejudice posed a threat only to our own community. No longer. For six years, we have seen AIDS

stigmatized as "a gay disease," which it is not. The statistic that 60 to 70 percent of AIDS cases in the United States are gay or bisexual men has been used as an excuse to take this disease less seriously than other medical emergencies (such as Legionnaire's Disease or Toxic Shock Syndrome) that have affected far fewer people.

We have the knowledge we need to educate people about how to minimize their risk of contracting AIDS—yet the government either refuses to disseminate it or tries to do so on a skeletal budget. Why? Because bureaucrats don't want to be accused of promoting "immorality" by acknowledging that homosexuality exists, is a legitimate part of human sexuality and ought to be acknowledged.

The result? Humanity is threatened with what may turn out to be the worst epidemic of all time—an epidemic that could have been prevented if AIDS had been taken seriously enough in time.

Lesbians and gays seem to be under attack from everywhere. Our enemies range from a gang of young gay-bashers in Los Angeles, which calls itself the "AIDS Prevention Team," to that other gang, the five U.S. Supreme Court justices who formed the majority upholding sodomy laws. Their opinion, which contained and cited virtually every bigoted, prejudicial, homophobic statement made in the last 2,500 years, made hatred towards gays the official policy of the U.S. government.

It's time to fight back. It's time to duplicate the success of the black community, which made advances in the '50s, '60s and '70s by being militant and mounting marches, demonstrations and actions of non-violent resistance.

It's time for us to stop trusting politicians and other "friends" in the non-gay community to take care of us and look after our rights.

It's time to take responsibility. It's time to march on Washington. A massive turnout will show America that for love and for life, we're not going back.

Tony Zampella is San Diego chair of the March on Washington committee and publisher of Bravo! San Diego, a weekly lesbian and gay newspaper.

Early Christians

★ I have recently noticed your assertions that the Catholic Church "always has condemned homosexuality."

Although the Catholic Church has maintained an unspiritual, self-righteous condemnation and persecution of gays since the sixth or seventh century, it appears that early Christians did not.

I refer you to the scholarly work, *Christianity, Homosexuality and Social Tolerance*, a wonderful work that gives overwhelming evidence to establish how and why the Catholic Church developed its self-righteous dogma.

The realization of the historical reasons for the dogma, and the realization that this hatred was not always condoned, was a freeing experience for me. I recommend the reading to you, and everyone who wishes to know the truth about dogma.

John Scott
Oakland

Nothing to Show For It

★ I am looking for anyone who has had any experience with the "Somarin" shiitake mushroom treatment for AIDS.

I recently took a six-week course of the mushroom liquid at a cost of \$3150. (You read it correctly.) I was told continually that I would feel better in a couple of weeks and that my T-cell count would go up. When neither of these things happened (my T-cells went down), I was then informed that maybe I should take another six weeks.

Prior to paying, in advance, for the treatment, I was not told that it might not be effective, or that maybe I would need a larger dose. If I had been given this information, I most certainly would not have attempted the treatment.

Have you, or anyone you know had a good or bad experience with this treatment? Please contact me at 861-1734 if you have any information.

For anyone considering taking "Somarin," I definitely do not recommend it. I am out \$3150 and have nothing to show for it.

Fred Rosenblum
San Francisco

In His Own Image

★ While I certainly agree with Mike Hippner (Sept. 24) in opposing the Bork nomination, and agree that President Reagan is trying to "remake the Supreme Court in his own conservative image," I must disagree with his further assertion that the current ideological makeup of the court is a result of appointments by previous Republican presidents.

Of the four dissenters in the Hardwick sodomy case, three were appointed by Republicans—Blackmun, who wrote the stinging dissenting opinion, by Nixon; Brennan by Eisenhower, and Stevens by Ford. In contrast, the homophobic majority opinion was authored by Byron White, who was named by Kennedy.

Reagan is relatively unique in applying a heavy ideological bias on nominees to the U.S. Supreme Court. Of the presidents since World War II, only Lyndon Johnson appointed justices more or less assured to vote a certain way. The others, Republicans and Democrats alike, have named the best legal minds they could find, regardless of ideology.

Stuart Byron
Los Angeles

ED. NOTE: *On the dissenters in the Bowers v. Hardwick case, you are correct. The way those dissenters voted should be remembered with fondness. However, President Reagan is not unique in recent years for applying a heavy ideological bias on court nominees. One of the themes of Richard Nixon's 1968 presidential campaign was to appoint "strict constructionists" to the court. He tried and failed with both Clement Haynsworth and G. Harrold Carswell.*

—Will Snyder

Missed the Mark

★ It was with absolute incredulity that I read Skip Aiken's letter (B.A.R. Sept. 24). How could he have missed the mark so completely? Yes, the Names Project's literature says the panels are going to Washington, D.C.—therefore that is the destination of the quilt. However, the literature also calls the quilt "A National AIDS Memorial" which makes its purpose a visual gut-wrenching reminder of the thousands of lives, talent and love that have been lost due to this tragic disease.

By Neiman-Marcus allowing the panels to be displayed in their windows, perhaps an otherwise mindless shopper stopped for a moment and realized that each name was a loved individual who might

still be with us if the government had acted years sooner. If even a handful of people were touched by this visual statement, then Neiman-Marcus is to be thanked rather than to assume the store was somehow benefiting by giving up valuable display space.

However, when Aiken accused the Names Project of betraying the gay community and becoming strange bedfellows with the Catholic Church because the panels were displayed at Mission Dolores, I could only stop and re-read those words again. This quilt was not about "becoming a mere stage prop for the pope," nor was it "to endorse, dignify, or validate the pope."

I would have hoped J2P2 would have had a good long stare at it and maybe realize that those names represented the very people his church is showing so little compassion for. In my dreams, I wished he would have wrapped himself in it and cried for the lives lost. (I admit, I'm something of a fantasizer.)

It's also been stated that even though only the panels received by Sept. 15 will make it to Washington, the Names Project will continue "until the last person has died of AIDS."

After Washington, the quilt will travel around the country and be displayed. Does Aiken intend for his individual panel to be removed so it can no longer be subjected to uses of which he does not approve? I am not a member of the Names Project staff, nor have I, as yet, constructed a panel for the quilt, but I fully understand and appreciate the work, dedication and necessity of this extremely moving and visual tribute of such overwhelming impact.

To dismiss showing these panels anywhere except in Washington, D.C. on Oct. 11 as a shortsighted, strategic blunder on the part of the Names Project is worse than calling the Vietnam memorial a waste of perfectly good granite.

James Head
Alameda

Loathing and Disgust

★ The coverage of the "Gay Rodeo" is worthy of only the worst loathing and disgust imaginable to a gay person.

As long-time victims of holocaust and oppression, gays would supposedly be the last to perpetuate the silent holocaust being waged against the innocent and helpless—in this case, animals.

Gays by nature supposedly have an extra measure of sensitivity, tenderness, empathy, and compassion. It's certainly not evident in the shameful spectacle of the "Gay Rodeo."

The animals are treated "better" you say, than in a straight rodeo?

Violence is violence; abuse is abuse; degradation and exploitation by any other name are still the same. Does this really go to enhance the fraternity and camaraderie of the participants? Are animals really just unfeeling non-entities—things—the way gays are to Nazis and much of modern society? It is truly astounding that any gay person would perpetuate the ways of his own oppressors.

W.W. Sheppard
San Francisco

Heart of Hearts

★ Personally, I think it's time for those of us who know in our heart of hearts that AIDS is the genocide of gay men, to seek each other out and discuss the matter.

Leland Mellott
San Francisco

Set For Take Off

The following letter was sent to the federal Acting Secretary of Transportation.

★ Dear Mr. Secretary:

1987 was quite a year for news affecting the flying public in general and airline and FAA employees in particular. From reports of troubled carriers and their performance records to media exposure of vulnerabilities in air traffic control systems to instances of AIDS patients denied boarding privileges on certain carriers, we can only hope the industry news will brighten in 1988.

With the recent resignation of Secretary Elizabeth Dole, the absence of a national AIDS agenda and policy, and the 1988 presidential election looming on the horizon, I, along with 400,000 readers, wonder about our ultimate destination and DOT goals to improve our plights as citizens and as airline industry professionals.

Brady Ennis
Managing Editor
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Casting Stones

★ A response to "Nez Pas," (B.A.R., Oct. 1):

My Dear Ms. Pas,

Imagine you and I being confused in this latest round of the local rumor mill. Could it be due to the similarity of our habit? I would have thought that my utter lack, and your over abundance, of poise and coyness makes the deduction quite simple. As for behavior, I will gladly accept your judgment just as soon as you begin paying my rent and putting the food on my table. For now, hugs and kisses from Sun City. I can SMILE on that note.

Vera, the Vicious
Oakland

P.S. ACIE Emperor and Empress IX—and you thought it couldn't last. ACIE seems to be one of the few things in life from which one can retire without worrying about continuance. My only wish is that Fairy were still alive to witness how her dream goes on! I greatly miss her company.

No Credit

★ This letter was sent to Visa Credit Card Center:

In memory of my friend, Dr. Tom Waddell, of the Gay Olympics, I will no longer be using my BankAmericard Visa. I am returning the same herewith.

I wish to make it clear, however, that I consider this account closed.

I also want you to know that I will use one of my other credit cards to attend the Gay Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1990.

Patrick T. Grace
San Francisco

Plea for Plainer Personals

★ "Want Bubble Butt," read the invitation. "Written just for me!" I gasped. Off went my reply, coyly mentioning my various impromptu public and private performances. Imagine my chagrin when I learned that by "bubble butt" the advertiser had meant the *shape*, rather than what it does.

The following week, playing it safe, I answered an ad for "FF." For into how much trouble, after all, can you possibly get with French fries? Well, you wouldn't believe what my new friend tried to do when the gloves came off! And without even benefit of ketchup!

All of this could have been avoided if those composing personals ads would eschew, entirely, ambiguity. So, please, gentlemen, place those ads till your eye bubble. Be bold, be frank, be forthright. But, above all, be clear. Otherwise, like the two gentlemen above, you're certainly going to hear from me.

Strange de Jim
San Francisco

Papal Pablum

★ I would like to thank the Bay Area Reporter and other community publications for [their] coverage of the papal visit here. Without your coverage of the serious issues involved in the pope's tour, Bay Area residents would have heard nothing but sugar-coated pablum from the general media!

The largest demonstration in the country against the pope's anti-women, anti-gay policies was held right here in San Francisco! Yet, the city's largest newspaper barely chose to mention it! The local radio and TV stations conducted themselves like a pack of junior-high school cheerleaders. Little if any attempt was made to balance the conflicts involved.

Surely, needed public monies were squandered by public officials. The Secret Service came into town and suspended civil liberties for many, and still the general media chose to report papal fluff. Thanks, for a job well done.

Patrick A. Tifer
Guerneville

Blasphemous

★ The Polish drag queen has come and gone. Most tourists pay their own way, especially those with millions of dollars at their disposal. Instead, gullible private citizens contributed hard-earned money, and other U.S. citizens, via their taxes, have been saddled, unasked, with huge costs of that extravaganza.

Historically inaccurate statements appeared dai-

ly in adulterous excesses. There was no bishop of Rome to exercise authority over scattered Christian communities for centuries after Jesus was crucified and resurrected. It is therefore blasphemous to claim that the current Roman Catholic bishop of Rome should assume, unilaterally, to dictate to Christians what they should believe about Christian and non-Christian ethics—sexual or otherwise.

Most frightening, therefore, were the reports of what was said to the U.S. bishops who, themselves, were handicapped by foreigners, not chosen by their subjects. According to press reports, those bishops were in effect ordered, not requested, not to attempt to follow the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth but to think and say what they were told to think and say by the successor of Urban II, Innocent III, Alexander (Borgia) VI, Leo X, Julius II, Boniface VIII, Pius XII plus, probably, Pope Joan, the woman whose claim to having been bishop of Rome is at least as historically accurate as that claimed for the apostle Peter, who may never even have got to Rome.

Many of those U.S. bishops are dedicated Christians. One has to wonder what soul searching they may now be undergoing.

Fred R. Methered
San Francisco

Use MasterCard

★ The following letter was sent to Jan Soderstrom, VISA Marketing Department, P.O. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128:

I was rather disheartened to discover that some banks have a policy of donating money to the U.S. Olympic Committee (USOC) with each VISA card purchase. I have contacted the bank that issued my VISA card and they have assured me that they are not participating in this program. However, considering the recent blatantly homophobic court battle over the use of the term "Gay Olympics," I cannot in all conscience continue to financially support an organization that in turn offers their financial support to the USOC.

Until the USOC offers a public apology for its outrageously inhuman behavior and VISA rectifies its blunder by offering support in kind to the Gay Games, I have no further need or desire for a VISA card. It would simply leave a bad taste in this proud gay man's mouth to knowingly spend money on anything that would assist in supporting an organization that would suppress my rights. I'm sure you can see that were I to continue using my VISA card I would be aiding in my own oppression. This I will not do.

Enclosed is one-half of said card. The other half will be sent to Sasha Alyson of Boston. I understand he is creating a collage of VISA cards as a tribute and memorial to the late Dr. Thomas Waddell, father of the Gay Olympics.

Recognizing that my bank is not supportive of this oppressive action, I do not wish to penalize them. I do wish that they would discontinue offering the VISA card to their customers. Yet, I am content enough to cancel my VISA account with them as I do have a MasterCard account that will remain open and active. I will suggest to my bank as strongly as I can that they place more emphasis on the MasterCard and as little as possible on marketing the VISA card.

I also intend to suggest to my friends and family members that they seriously consider cancelling their VISA accounts and open a MasterCard account instead. Perhaps MasterCard will be open to a marketing ploy as such the following: "MasterCard: Our cardholders are discriminating—Our policies are not."

Vern E. Nuanez, Jr.
San Francisco

Arrest of Disabled

★ In an emergency resolution the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club Executive Board asked Mayor Dianne Feinstein to explain to club members the actions of the city Police Department in the arrest of disabled persons in wheelchairs at the Hilton Hotel, Sept. 27.

The club resolution noted that the one handicapped ramp was illegally closed off by hotel security guards and the Police Department refused to enforce the law to reopen it.

"We want an explanation of how this happened. We hold the mayor and the Police Department accountable. This action has given San Francisco a black eye in the newspapers of the world. It sends the wrong message to other citizens. It could hurt the tourist trade."

"The Mayor and the Police Department owe citizens of San Francisco and the disabled an explanation."

Wayne Moore, president
Stonewall Gay Democratic Club

God Told Him To Do It



Pat Robertson

With the recent entry of television evangelist Marion G. (Pat) Robertson into the GOP presidential race, Rep. Pat Schroeder out of the race, the familiar "Run, Pat, Run!" slogan takes on a whole new meaning. Christian fundamentalists across the country were smiling last week when Robertson, former host of Christian Broadcasting Network's "700 Club" trekked to Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant to formally launch his drive for the Republican nomination.

The announcement itself, carefully staged in a black neighborhood where Robertson claims he lived briefly nearly 30 years ago, proved to be an embarrassment for the new darling of the GOP Right. Robertson, making a naked pitch for black votes, brought former L.A. Rams player, and fellow born-again Christian, Rosey Grier, to Brooklyn to introduce him. Grier, who once made his political bed with Democratic liberals, promptly introduced Robertson as "my good friend and fellow Christian, Pat Robinson."

It was downhill from there, as Robertson's carefully worded speech was continually drowned out by hecklers, who the evangelist later branded as "a well-organized group of homosexuals." The on-hand welcoming crowd whose jeers brought criticism from Robertson, was actually made up of groups representing an AIDS action group of the National Organization for Women.

From a political standpoint, Robertson, who claims "God told him" to seek the presidency, was reportedly causing national Republican party leaders some of the same apprehension that the Rev. Jesse Jackson has caused Democrats. While GOP leaders have from time to time quietly chuckled at the boisterous

issues that Jackson has brought up, they found themselves with a "man of the cloth" on their hands this election. For the most part, Republican party officials will probably ignore Robertson, passing him off as little more than a fringe candidate with no hope of actually winning the GOP nomination.

Robertson, meanwhile, was having public relations problems. No sooner had he "resigned" his evangelical position—insisting on being identified as "private citizen Robertson"—than he was being confronted this week by video images showing him leading a 1981 revivalist faith-healing in which he proclaimed that he had cured members of his audience of cancer, hemorrhoids, goiter, bad teeth and a long list of other ailments.

In past interviews, Robertson has reported having out-loud conversations with God. Robertson once said he was driving his car one day when the Lord suddenly spoke to him and told him to ask for something, anything. Robertson explained that "I said, well, I don't know what to ask for but I probably would like to have \$1,000. And the heavenly father said all right." So, the Lord gave it to him, Robertson said.

And then a week later he was glad he had asked because as it turned out his daughter required dental care that cost \$1,000. "He knew I had the need before I called on him," Robertson explained.

Now, if Robertson could just get the Lord to do something about the national budget, the Republicans *probably* would nominate him.

I predicted that some would take offense at my comments last week about Rep. Pat Schroeder's crying through a press conference removing herself from the Demo presidential race. Not to be disappointed, one woman wrote me accusing me of the usual "sexist" remarks, adding that I had no compassion for Schroeder's position. What compassion? Do you think that Gorbachev would show her any compassion?

While she has a record of being a good congresswoman, Schroeder did us all a favor by staying out of the race. Spare us! Give me a presidential candidate, regardless of gender, who can deal with problems without falling apart.

Most women I know would probably agree that Schroeder's public display of unexplained emotion was, at best, embarrassing. It has nothing to do with gender, and certainly has nothing to do with showing

"compassion."

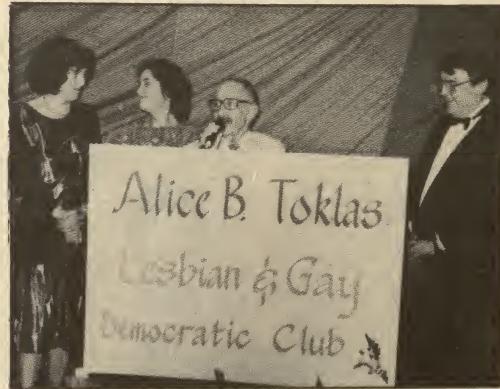
In Milwaukee, radio announcers Perry Stone and Randi Rhodes were fired from their jobs at WQFM because of their alleged continuous remarks against gays. I can think of a couple of local announcers here who might start thinking about their jobs if their onslaught of anti-gay comments continues.

Bad-taste-of-the-week award goes to entertainers (?) Romanovsky & Philips who performed a number about penises at Saturday night's Toklas Dinner, prompting a goodly number to leave the dinner early. (Graduates of the Tom Ammiano school of entertainment, no doubt.)

Remember Anita Bryant? Well, the orange-juice bigot was among the first women members to join the Atlanta Kiwanis Club last week after the Supreme Court forced the group to accept women.



Ed Zschau appeared at the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights dinner
(Photo: Rink)



Walter Ems received the Volunteer of the Year award at the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club annual awards banquet
(Photo: Rink)

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NATIONAL & WORLD NEWS

Canadian Quarantine Law Proposed

VANCOUVER, B.C.—The British Columbia gay community is hurriedly mounting a major effort to stop legislation proposed by the provincial government that would permit quarantine of anyone suspected of transmitting the AIDS virus or any other "disease agent." Bill 34 was introduced in July and is expected to pass in October unless opponents can stop it.

Vancouver's Aug. 3 Gay Pride march saw an unusually large turnout that has led to the formation of a coalition which hopes to combine the political power of existing groups to defeat the legislation, reports Angles, a Vancouver gay newspaper.

According to opposition organizer Ken Smith, chair of Vancouver's Gay and Lesbian Community Centre, portions of the bill "are clearly targeted at persons with HIV infection."

"Past experience in this country and this province does not leave us with any sense of security," said Smith, referring to the treatment of Japanese Canadians during World War II.

"This legislation is the result not only of deeply rooted fears and myths and prejudices about sexuality, but also of a competitive value system that sets us all up to fear one another," said Bet Cecil, of the Vancouver Lesbian Connection. She advocated lobbying for funds for hospices, treatments, research and education to prevent the transmission of AIDS. "Above all they have no right to lock us

up," she concluded.

But opposition to the draconian measure has caused some bitter feelings among local AIDS activists and split the community. AIDS Vancouver, the largest group battling the epidemic in British Columbia, has refrained from actively opposing the legislation. Bob Tivey was fired from his job as executive director of the organization when he publicly advocated that AIDS Vancouver take a strong stand against Bill 34.

"A couple of people [on the board] see AIDS Vancouver run with no voice, just providing services," said Tivey. He called the organization "extremely conservative."

Although it hasn't actively opposed the bill, AIDS Vancouver requested British Columbia's health minister Peter Dueck to define the terms "isolation" and "self-isolation." The group also plans to monitor abuses of the legislation if it passes.

During August, the Coalition for Responsible Health Legislation (CRHL) was formed to organize opposition to Bill 34. Said Tom Patterson, CRHL chair, "We shouldn't be panicking about concentration camps before Christmas. The government wants the law to keep its right wing happy. But that doesn't mean that they won't use it to keep the gay community under their eye and under their thumb."

—Angles (Vancouver)

Yale Goes Gay? No Way, Says Prez

NEW HAVEN, CT.—The president of Yale University has strongly denied that his university has gone gay. Benno C. Schmidt, Jr. sent a three-page letter to "assuage angered alumni and potential donors" and to correct any "distortion," reports the New York Times. In his letter, Schmidt rebutted charges made by Julie V. Iovine in an essay that appeared in the Wall Street Journal Aug. 4.

"Suddenly, Yale has a reputation as a gay school," wrote Iovine in "Lipsticks and Lords: Yale's New Look." Most of her article described changes in the 284-year old university since Iovine had attended it in the mid-1970s.

Iovine said her impressions of Yale were derived from three interviews she conducted. One student had told her that before registration last year, she'd been informed that one in four students at Yale is gay or lesbian. Iovine described lesbians at Yale as either "lipsticks" or "crunchies"—the latter described as having "old-fashioned utopian ideas about feminism."

Gay men were dismissed in Iovine's article as "assimilationists" who "don't want to draw attention to their sexuality."

Iovine defended her contention that Yale has a reputation as a gay school. "It's an emerging reputation, but, you know, reputa-

UNQUOTE

I don't like being told that I'm unfit to serve my country. It makes me angry. People are still being harassed. Somebody along the line has to stand up and do something.

—Sgt. Miriam Ben-Shalom on her victory over the U.S. Army that wanted her out because she is lesbian.

Eros is the god of love, and that's just what we're up to.

—A participant in London's recent kiss-in to protest arrests of gay people showing affection in public which is still against the law in the United Kingdom.

We're saying you better wake up because there is a problem out there and people better do something about it. And the thing you better not do is to go out and act like a vigilante. This is not the way to handle the problem, it should be handled by other means and society should be aware of that.

—Producer Robert Bouvier defending his "slasher" film *City in Panic* (about a psychopathic killer who stalks those with AIDS), as being educational and not exploitative of violence against people with AIDS.

tion is equal to the word rumor," she told the Times.

"It was meant as a glancing view of a couple of things standing out at Yale from the perspective of someone from ten years ago," said Iovine, a freelance writer.

In his letter, Schmidt said that no one at Yale had knowledge of any data that 25 percent of the

university's 10,000 students were gay or lesbian. He cited a 1986 survey by the Yale Daily News that estimated that three percent of men and one percent of women students were gay.

Schmidt denounced Iovine's article as "journalistic drivel" and "an extremely misleading picture of the student body."

—New York Times

LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR

THIS IS THE GAY BROADCASTING
NETWORK... I'M DIERDRE O'DAY...



LONGTIME HOLLYWOOD COUPLE
KEN AND BARBIE BROKE UP
TODAY... ENDING NEARLY 30
YEARS TOGETHER...



INTERVIEWED AT THE HOME OF
CLOSE FRIEND G.I.JOE, KEN
ANNOUNCED PLANS TO START A
NEW LINE OF MEN'S LEATHER
CLOTHING...



BARBIE, ON WORLD TOUR WITH
LONGTIME FRIEND CRYSTAL BARBIE,
DECLINED COMMENT...



Bridge Across the River Y

Having lived in Northern California for almost a decade, I thought I had explored nearly all the wonders of this particularly beautiful part of the world. Recently, however, I discovered a place previously unknown to me, a place so idyllic, so serene, that I *had* to write about it.

Alas, the friend who introduced this place to me wasn't sure that writing about it was such a good idea. "I know it's wonderful here," he said, "but don't you think you'll ruin it if you let everybody in on the secret?"

He changed his mind only when I assured him that my little column would hardly induce hordes of unruly pleasure-seekers to descend upon the place forthwith—and when I promised to change the names to protect the unviolated.

Consequently, let's just say that the place we visited is a river starting with a letter near the end of the alphabet. (Shall we say Y?) It flows out of the Sierras just north of a town named for a neighboring state. (Shall we say N City?) To get there, head north from I-80 on a highway named for the year gold was discovered in California. But that's all I'm saying. I can't make my friend, C, angry.

Although C had planned for us to backpack up-river, where we would spend three days camping, I wasn't sure we were going to make it when C's legs gave out after the first 20 minutes. C was embarrassed by this, but I told him not to be. To put it delicately,



ly, his health has seen better days. (He has a disease starting with the letter A.) Given his condition, he has already performed miracles, both physically and mentally.

To help him out, I hid his pack and agreed to come back for it later. This turned out to be a rather small sacrifice on my part, for the hike, which C. warned me was arduous, was actually quite simple. We reached our destination in no time—a sandy beach on the banks of the river backed by the sheer granite cliffs of the river canyon.

"I call it C's Beach," said C proudly, "because it's my own

private Eden."

The main reason C likes the place is its beauty. Where we camped, the Y River consists of a multitude of emerald green pools connected by a series of cascading waterfalls. The water in these pools is crystal clear and impossible to resist. As a result, we spent the greater part of our time escaping from the heat by swimming and clambering among the river boulders.

As we swam, freshwater trout nibbled at the hairs on our legs (and at certain appendages beginning with P).

I soon learned that we were hardly the first to explore the area. Small symmetrical depressions in the surface of riverside rocks gave evidence that Indians

once ground their corn or grain (or whatever) here. Cables, timbers, and building foundations testified to the presence of generations of miners. A tunnel carved into the canyon was the legacy of the Chinese laborers imported into the area in the last century. More fanciful architectural endeavors marked the efforts of a recent group of migrants, the back-to-nature enthusiasts of the last 20 years.

C and I met a few of these old hippies while we wandered along the riverbanks. We were much more interested, however, in the handsome young gentlemen we encountered there, most of them gay. For years, C explained, despite its location far from the urban gay ghettos to the

west, the River Y has been a popular retreat for the gay hiking and backpacking set, sort of a wilderness version of the Russian River.

There is even a gay cruising area (safe sex only, I presume) near C's Beach—not that it did me any good. The sun and the heat were driving me nuts, but I had about as much luck there as I do in the city. The bronzed bodies I desired passed me by for greener pastures downstream.

Fortunately, I didn't really care. I was much more interested in the stars overhead than in those below, in fires on the beach than in those in the heart. I had come to the River Y to escape, after all, not to become enmeshed in complicated interpersonal dynamics.

So I spent my afternoons reading *Slaves of New York*, a book about complicated interpersonal dynamics, instead. And I spent my evenings talking with C about—what else?—complicated interpersonal dynamics. Some people really know how to escape.

After three days of this, C and I returned to SF by Way of N City, where we were served BLT's by a waitress named Dee, who was AOK.

"Don't forget now," C warned me as he slipped his H₂O. "Mum's the word on the River Y. You'll be careful about spreading the word to B.A.R. readers, right?"

"Aw, don't worry about it," I replied. "They'll never figure it out."

Boxer Holds Hearing On Fed. AIDS Education

Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-SF) will convene a hearing of the House Budget Committee Ad Hoc Task Force on AIDS on Oct. 8. The hearing will focus on the AIDS crisis as related to the federal budget, specifically, AIDS Education: What Has Been Done Thus Far, and What Improvements Can Be Made. It will take place in the House Budget Committee Room (210 Cannon), beginning at 9 a.m.

"Not nearly enough has been done in this country to educate the public about AIDS," Boxer said. "Congress has appropriated millions of dollars for public education and other

AIDS-related projects. Despite this and the House Budget Committee's strong action in behalf of AIDS funding, the United States still has yet to implement a consistent, comprehensive education program.

"It is very important to come to an understanding of where our nation is headed in terms of AIDS education," Rep. Boxer continued. "Specifically, we need to review what has been done and get a clear expectation of how and when current and future appropriations will be spent. That is the purpose of this hearing."

University: "We have actually convinced ourselves that slogans will save us. Shoot up if you must, but use a clean needle. Enjoy sex whenever and with whomsoever you wish, but wear a condom. No! The answer is no. Not because it isn't cool or smart or because you might end up in jail or dying in an AIDS ward, but because it's wrong, because we have spent 5,000 years as a race of rational human beings, trying to drag ourselves out of the primeval slime by searching for truth and moral absolutes. In its purest form, truth is not a polite tap on the shoulder. It is a howling reproach. What Moses brought down from Mt. Sinai were not the Ten Suggestions."

Friday

(Continued from page 9)

the high road" in the mayoral campaign was "laughable" turned out to be correct. Ross, Art Agnos' campaign manager had no sooner finished attacking traditional "political hit pieces" than Alice Toklas Club members began receiving a classic "hit piece" against Molinari in their mailboxes from Agnos' supporters.

Quote of the Week: From "Nightline" moderator Ted Koppel, a man who usually takes a middleman stance on topics, giving a piercing sermon on morals last week at Duke

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RSVP

News you need to know.
Only in Bay Area Reporter.

Forget Marriage, Says Winner In Gay Palimony Case

\$2.3 Million Award Recognized Business Contract, Not Relationship

by Ray O'Loughlin

When James Short sued his former lover, it wasn't really a palimony suit, he says. Nonetheless, he feels he's struck a blow for gay rights and he believes his experience sets an example for other gay couples. He's got a point. After all, he walked out of a courtroom one day in September \$2.3 million richer.

His secret? Forget about marriage.

Previous lawsuits involving same-sex couples splitting up have taken the tack of portraying the relationship as close to marriage as possible. That approach has gotten nowhere with the courts. Courts have consistently associated any connection of sexual relations and property within unmarried couples as akin to prostitution. Gay and nongay cases have been dismissed. The stumbling block for same-sex couples, of course, is that legal marriage is not an option. In the words of attorney Art McGlennan, who represented Short, "Since in California there is no recognized gay marriage, there is no gay divorce."

But gay couples, like other couples, frequently have disputes to resolve in their partings. These disputes frequently center on conflicting versions of what property belongs to whom.

'YOU HAVE SOME RIGHTS'

That was the problem Jim Short faced. He and his lover of 19 years, Charles Gale, had accumulated real estate worth over \$4 million. Gale worked as a real estate broker while Short worked as a hairdresser and then at a bank. The two men pooled their finances. Short claimed that he and Gale had an agreement to split everything equally if they separated. In 1983, they parted.

The jury believed Short and awarded him \$1.79 million, plus \$500,000 in punitive damages. It is the largest known settlement in a gay relationship case.

"It's the first of its kind," said McGlennan. "The message is clear. If you're going to get together, make an agreement, preferably written, that certain things are included or not included."

James Short

(Photo: S. Savage)

Short saw more to it than that. "I'm particularly pleased about the effect this might have on all our rights," he said. "A court of law recognized that two men had a relationship."

"If a couple will follow the example of it," said Short, "and things don't work out, you have some rights."

It took the jury six hours of deliberation to decide unanimously in Short's favor. The argument they had to settle was not whether the two men were "married," which would have required the division of property according to California's community property law.

The matter presented to the

jury was whether or not an oral contract to share the proceeds of their investments had been made in 1964 when Short and Gale joined together.

To establish that, McGlennan presented evidence of joint bank accounts and other financial transactions. Gale had claimed that all the real estate was in his name, but Short managed to shake that argument. He produced witnesses to testify that Gale had told them on a number of occasions that everything they owned was held in common.

CONTRACT ACTION

"It was pretty hard after 20 years of living together to separ-

ate out all this stuff as Gale tried to do," said McGlennan.

In court, McGlennan portrayed the matter as primarily a contract dispute over a joint partnership pooling agreement. "I was aware of other cases where gay men had attempted to analogize their relationship as a marriage and it didn't work."

While being candid about the fact that Gale and Short had lived together in a homosexual relationship, McGlennan presented the case as a contract action.

"The fact that they had a gay relationship was stipulated at the beginning," one juror in the case told the Bay Area Reporter, "but it was not brought into the argument."

What the jury had to consider was an extensive paper trail of documents, deeds and transfers over a 19-year period. "The whole question was whether they had a contract," said the juror.

Gale's attorney Valerie Karpman was not available for comment. She was quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle as denying that the two men had any agreement to share their assets. "It is essentially a case of a rich man and a poor man," she was reported saying.

Short said he was especially delighted that the jury was unanimous in his favor. "I feel vindicated," he said.

He described the jury of eight women and four men as a cross-section of San Francisco. "It does a hell of a lot for my feelings about the judicial system," said Short. "It works."

He has yet to see any of his new fortune and it may be a while before he does. According to Short, Gale will likely appeal the award.

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French Embassy To Honor AIDS Volunteers

WASHINGTON—"Americans Who Care"—the volunteers who run the hotlines, raise the funds, care for AIDS patients who are ill, often terminally—will be honored at a reception at the French Embassy, Friday, Oct. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by the National AIDS Network (NAN), the event marks the publication of a NAN-published book, *Americans Who Care*, a tribute to more than 90 Americans who have given thousands upon thousands of hours to the battle against AIDS.

Morgan Fairchild and Gary Collins of television and movie fame will co-host the gala. "But the real stars," according to Paul A. Kawata, NAN director, "are the volunteers. They come from

30 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico—men and women, straight and gay, old and young, black, white, Hispanic—who have given the most important gift of all, themselves."

"We will select only seven of the 90 for a special award," Kawata continued. "But these seven are representative of the 90 in our book and thousands more in the hundreds of community-based organizations that make up the National AIDS Network."

Whoopi Goldberg, Lainie Kazan and other prominent entertainment figures are expected to perform for the volunteers. Washington's political and social world is also expected to be on hand for the tribute.

'Clip Visa' Campaign In Waddell's Memory

A campaign against Visa's support of the anti-gay U.S. Olympic Committee has progressed rapidly in recent weeks. Many Visa cardholders object to the U.S. Olympic Committee's five-year-long lawsuit against what was originally called the Gay Olympics, now known as the Gay Games.

Sasha Alyson, of Alyson Publications, who is coordinating the campaign, is asking Visa cardholders to cut their cards in half, sending one-half to Visa and the other to him. He will use them at the October March on Washington to create a mosaic memorial to Tom Waddell, the Gay Games founder who recently died of AIDS.

"The campaign is drawing widespread support across the country," Alyson indicated. "Most participants are expressing real enthusiasm about finally being able to do something about the situation."

He asks those who wish to participate in the campaign to cut their cards in half, and send one half to Jan Soderstrom, Visa-Marketing Dept., Olympic Program, P.O. Box 8999, San Francisco, CA 94128, enclosing a note explaining why they are closing their account. They should send the other half to Sasha Alyson at Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118.

S.F. Man Faces San Diego Trial For Biting Police

by Neal Putnam
S. California Update

SAN DIEGO—A San Francisco marcher in the 1986 Gay Pride Parade was ordered to stand trial for biting two police officers following a skirmish with fundamentalists protesting the parade.

Brian Barlow, 40, of San Francisco, is charged with battery on the police officers, both felonies, and interfering with an officer, a misdemeanor.

San Diego Municipal Court Judge Robert Stahl, Jr., held an arraignment Sept. 28 in the case.

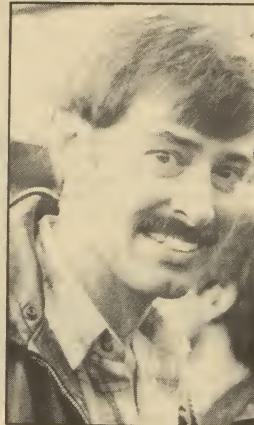
Reserve officer George Ground and police officer Raymond Shay testified Barlow bit them and drew blood after they tried to arrest him during the June 7, 1986 parade in Hillcrest.

"He sunk his teeth into my right shoulder... and held on like a turtle... To this day I still have a scar about the size of a quarter," said Ground.

Both officers said they have since received several blood tests for HIV virus antibodies, but the results were not disclosed. HIV is assumed to be the cause of AIDS.

Prosecutors earlier failed to get Barlow's blood tested for the antibodies after an appeals court overruled two judges allowing the testing. Prosecutors had hoped to upgrade the charges to include assault with a deadly weapon, the weapon being the HIV virus.

Both officers have sued Barlow



Brian Barlow

for \$500,000 in damages alleging he may have exposed them to AIDS, but Barlow has named them, five other officers, and the city of San Diego in a countersuit.

There is no documented case of AIDS being transmitted through a bite.

Shay testified he rubbed iodine "vigorously" on the wound after being bitten on the

knuckle. Both officers said they went to a hospital afterwards for a tetanus shot.

Ground said he was bitten on the shoulder, but no tears appeared in his uniform. He noted that Barlow "was strong as a bull" during the struggle.

Officer Les Oberlies III testified that a fundamentalist told him Barlow was squirting water on the picketers. He said he sternly told Barlow to stop it, but as Barlow left him, he swung at a woman and took her sign.

Officer James Arthur said Barlow dropped to a fetal position after he asked him to step aside and the two officers were bitten during the conflict. Ground said Barlow dropped to the ground when Arthur told him he was under arrest.

"The fundamentalists are trying to antagonize the homosexuals. They were standing on the sidewalk yelling crude remarks to the homosexuals in the parade. Nothing you could call obscene, but very derogatory," said Oberlies.

Oberlies said he saw signs that read, "Thank God for AIDS. It'll kill you queers" and "AIDS: the great White hope."

Oberlies said the corps inci-

dent occurred after Barlow's group, the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps, took up the whole street and the buffer zone between the parade and the fundamentalists had to move out of the way.

"Detective Oberlies called him (Barlow) a faggot once. He was mad. He was upset," testified Arthur.

"He said, 'You go back out there to your faggot friends,'" Arthur said.

The fundamentalists were from the Bible Missionary Fellowship in Santee and the Lighthouse Baptist Temple, which picked the parade every year.

Barlow remains free on his own recognizance. •

Face to Face Needs You

Face to face, the Sonoma County AIDS Network, is looking for people who would like to be trained to care for people with AIDS. The next scheduled home care training dates are Oct. 9 and 10, Friday evening from 6:10 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more info, please call Jude Winerip at (707) 887-1581 for an application right away. •

Pelosi Hosts Briefing for D.C. Marchers

U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-SF) will welcome San Francisco gay and lesbian rights leaders to Washington for the National March by hosting a legislative briefing session from 8:30 to 10 a.m. on Capitol Hill, Friday, October 9.

Pelosi plans to provide legislative packets including updates on legislative issues of concern to gay and lesbian rights supporters at the briefing session and to constituents who visit the Fifth Congressional District Office in Washington, D.C.

Events for the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights begin with National Lobby Day on Thursday and span the weekend, culminating with the March on the Mall on Sunday, October 11.

Congresswoman Pelosi will participate in several activities related to the march, in addition to hosting the legislative briefing for the San Francisco delegation on Friday. Pelosi will participate in the "Names Project" on Sunday morning by reading the names of people who have lost their lives to AIDS. A handmade quilt bearing the names will be unfurled on the Mall. Following this ceremony, Pelosi will join the San Francisco contingent as it marches to the Capitol. •

Sexuality and AIDS

A discussion/support group for gay men with AIDS is now forming with weekly meetings to begin in October.

This group will be a safe supportive place to share feelings with other gay men living with AIDS. The group will be facilitated by Francis Salmeri, a licensed psychotherapist, and Jerry Schmidt, a gay man living with AIDS and an experienced group facilitator. We will meet Thursdays from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Please call Jerry at 863-8908 or Francis at 552-6764 for more information. This group is offered free as a service to the community. •

Please Read This Message

If You Visited The San Francisco City Clinic
Between 1978 And 1980

Men who visited the San Francisco City Clinic between 1978 and 1980 may be able to provide critical information to AIDS research.

If you visited the Clinic during this time, or even if you think you did, please call us. We'd like to talk to you.

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Please call the Clinic Study at (800) 537-3722. The call is free. Your help is invaluable.

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The Strategy For An AIDS Scare

Text of a memo prepared by a consulting firm for the Republican Party

The AIDS issue could easily be a paramount one in 1988. It is important that it is used effectively and wisely. It is an explosive issue that could easily backfire if it is done in a heavy or blatant way.

Nationally, both SRC, the Bush campaign, the Washington governor campaign, and the Robertson campaign are exploring ways to harness public reaction to the AIDS issue. It will be used in major races in both Texas and Florida.

In California, it is a mixed bag. Some Republicans (Maddy, Quackenbush) refuse to try and exploit it, but many are more than willing. If we do, we must be discreet. An example of how not to approach it is Congressman Dannemeyer. At the meeting two weeks ago he was terrifying, practically foaming at the mouth any time anyone made a [sic] even slightly sympathetic reference to people with AIDS. Someone like Dannemeyer is a live grenade on this issue and far too emotional to do any good, indeed I fear that he would scare a lot of people. Doolittle's approach is far better, sound reasonable, play the emotion, and above all make it appear as if the party is responding to a public ground-swell rather than inciting one. We must avoid being labeled as extremists, the recent fate of the LaRouche and Briggs initiatives proves that and [sic] outright attack will be rejected by the voters.

This is the plan for the Garamendi campaign. We shall make contact with various pro-life, family value organizations and have them launch campaigns. In Garamendi's district, the Century Assembly of God Church seems a likely ally. The [sic] are hardworking, politically ignorant but as zealous as Dannemeyer. Attacking Garamendi as Pro-Abortion, Pro-Gay and therefore Pro-AIDS might prove to be easy.

Not only could the AIDS issue help us to gain ground in '88 but it might help us hang on where some of our people are in trouble (Dornan). Again, the Republican Party must never seem to be inciting a reaction, only responding to it. If we are low key, logical sounding, and stressing the importance of "protecting" families from the disease; then we could find ourselves in excellent shape in '88.

GOP

(Continued from page 1)

swell rather than inciting one."

The internal memos were provided by an aide on the state level who is gay, but has not come out to his employer. He said he could not tolerate the exploitation of people with AIDS for the sake of the ballot box.

"I don't believe this shit," the staffer said this week. "They [the Republicans] don't care about the people who are dying. AIDS is just something they're using to smear people with."

The memos reveal that the presidential campaigns of Vice President George Bush and Rev. Pat Robertson, as well as the Republican campaign for governor in Washington state, are considering a plan to use the AIDS crisis for political gain.

"We must avoid being labeled as extremists," one memo states. "The recent fate of the LaRouche and Briggs initiatives proves an outright [AIDS] attack will be rejected by the voters."

More homophobic exploitation is expressed by an AIDS questionnaire which is written so tightly that the deck is stacked against a balanced attitude about AIDS.

The data from the questionnaire would be used to produce "statistics" which will attempt to show that Democratic candidates are out of touch with the hard-line approach about AIDS among their constituents.

A prime target, the memos reveal, is California State Senator John Garamendi (D-Stockton). The fight against him is being brought to various pro-life, family-value organizations, including the Century of God Church in Garamendi's 5th



State Sen. John Doolittle 'plays the emotions,' party says

District, which extends from Stockton to the Sierra foothills.

The memos note that the aforementioned churchgoers are "politically ignorant, but zealous," and that Garamendi is vulnerable as "pro-Gay and therefore pro-AIDS."

"If we are low-key, logical sounding, and stressing the importance of protecting families from the disease, then we could find ourselves in excellent shape in 1988," one memo states.

In the AIDS questionnaire, the respondents are asked to choose the best response among the following two statements: first, that AIDS is such a crisis that "even some people might have their privacy or civil rights violated," or, that privacy must be protected "even if it means endangering the general population."

The aide who provided the documents said the public wasn't given much of a choice. "You sound like a reactionary no matter what you pick," the source said.

A further choice is offered between the following statements:

- "A quarantine of persons or groups is reasonable if they continue to indulge in behavior that will spread AIDS;"

- "A quarantine is never justified no matter what the medical or social emergency."

The source said there were similar questionnaires which referred to abortion as "murder" and dropped buzz words about the Contras as "freedom fighters" and valiant defenders against global communism.

A race to watch, the memos state, is the Washington gubernatorial campaign of Republican Norm Maleng, district attorney for King County in Seattle, where an AIDS backlash is predicted.

At the end of September, the following Democratic state senators from California appeared on the Republican AIDS hit list: Sen. Garamendi, Sen. Alquist and Sen. Mello.

In the State Assembly the Democratic legislators on the firing line are: Eastin, Johnston, Condit, Costa, Bronzan, Floyd, Tanner, Killea and Peace.

The Republicans are also targeting U.S. Rep. Norman Mineta for defeat.

A principle aim is to take Republican control of the California State Senate before reapportionment after the 1990 census.

The research aide said he was amazed at the homophobia of his colleagues and he thought it was rather bizarre that the Republicans thought all Democrats were deemed sympathetic and pro-AIDS, while all Republicans were not.

"They've made AIDS a Democratic disease. You can't possibly be a Republican and support it," the aide concluded, saying he was equally puzzled that his colleagues were so cordial yet so cold-blooded.

"They're really very nice," he recalled. "You'd never expect them to be so polite, so seemingly intelligent. It makes it more horrifying that they're so pleasant."

"Politics is a game to them. They don't see it in personal terms, it's a chess game and it's scary," the source said.

The Scare Questionnaire

Should insurance companies have the right to deny coverage to people with AIDS?

Keeping the names of the victims confidential, are you personally concerned with the AIDS disease?

Which of the following do you feel should be the Federal Government's top priority in its efforts to combat the AIDS crisis?

- Education programs to teach people how not to get AIDS.
- Increased funding for research.
- Required widespread testing to identify all people who are infected with the virus.
- Isolation of AIDS patients from the rest of the population.
- Don't know.

Which of the following statements is closer to your own viewpoint?

- Everything possible needs to be done to prevent the spread of AIDS to the general population, even if this means some people might have their privacy or civil rights violated.
- Controlling AIDS is important, but the privacy and civil rights of every citizen must be protected even if it means endangering the general population.

Which of the following statements is closer to your own viewpoint?

- A quarantine of persons or groups is reasonable if they continue to indulge in behavior that will spread AIDS.
- A quarantine is never justified no matter what the medical or social emergency.

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• Castro Street Fair! •



(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



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(Photo: S. Martin)



(Photo: R. Pruzan)



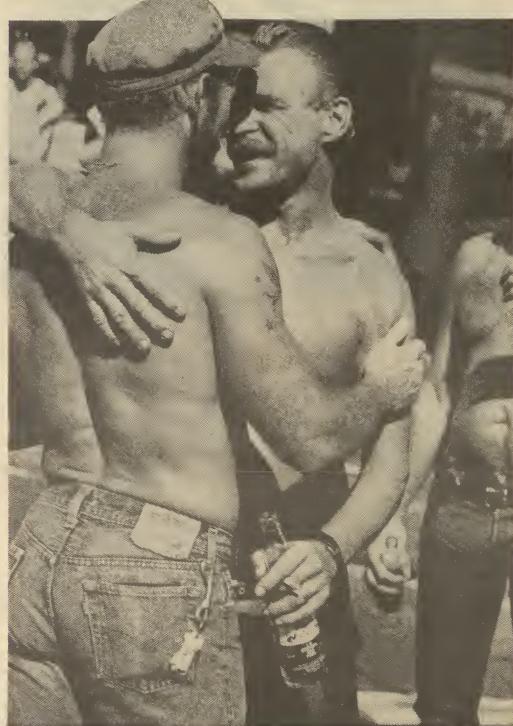
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DEATHS

Gay Games Promoter Zohn Artman Dies

by Jay Newquist

Zohn Artman, tireless benefit producer and public relations mentor, succumbed to AIDS on Oct. 2. He was 51 years old. He was best known for his involvement in organizing the Gay Games with his good friend and former lover, the late Dr. Tom Waddell. But over the years, he was also instrumental in organizing numerous benefit productions for many, varied causes.

Born in Lakeland, Florida, Artman left his home state for San Francisco in 1962. After a number of jobs, he met rock producer Bill Graham in 1972. The two took to each other immediately and Artman joined Graham's staff as a publicist.

Artman was known for his philanthropy even though he was never a rich man. In 1982, he was reported to have contributed \$14,000 to the Gay Games when he had a taxable income of \$17,000.

He also helped in 1981 to launch the Pride Center, the briefly lived gay community center on Hayes Street.

Other charities Artman worked for on a pro bono basis included the Child Abuse Prevention Society, Laguna Honda Hospital seniors program, and Vietnam veterans.

Artman was not a headline grabber, he didn't promote himself despite his showman's elan. But he worked his magic behind the tumult, casting a glow on others.

In his final days the famous, the not-so-famous and the merely mortal stopped by to say goodbye. It was a duty he had performed



Zohn Artman (r.) with Tom Waddell in 1983 (Photo: Rink)

ed countless times himself.

A man who defied the conventional pigeonhole, Artman was part showman, part facilitator, but a total friend who gained an estimable reputation as a stager of events.

Artman radiated excitement, commitment and trust, and held onto these virtues in a field often full of scoundrels. He administered to countless friends with AIDS while his own strength was

ebbing. In his years of creative compassion he took up the struggle of the oppressed and the forgotten while radiating a natural gay pride in the city he adopted in 1962.

At his death he was hatching plans for an international rock concert to benefit AIDS-related services. He never once thought it wouldn't happen, even if it might not happen until after his death.

Richard Brooks

Richard Brooks died Aug. 10 after long illness from AIDS related diseases. He was surrounded by family and friends at his death.

Richard arrived in San Francisco in 1972, after graduating from the University of Illinois. He grew up in southern Illinois. Although he was torn between his love of southern Illinois and missed his large extended family, he loved the San Francisco of the 70's and made a strong commitment to friends here.

He received his M.A. from San Francisco State University and taught English as a second language at the University of San Francisco and later for the Jefferson School District, where he taught for 12 years until forced to take a leave due to AIDS complications. Richard also taught at the Fashion Institute of San Francisco.

Richard loved to teach. He loved the intellectual stimulation and the drama and flair of being center stage. He loved "words" both written and spoken and he used them extraordinarily well. He was well known for his sharp wit and his memory. He loved to amuse people and had a strong sense of the absurd.

His most endearing qualities were his warmth, honesty and enjoyment of people. He had the ability to bring people together and did so even in his death. He was a remarkable person and teacher in his life, in his illness, and in his death. He is terribly missed by friends and family and will never be forgotten.

Jim Fernandez

A ubiquitous straw cowboy hat earned 37-year-old James Fernandez the nickname "Cowboy Jim" in several of his favorite watering holes. Jim succumbed to AIDS Sept. 15, having been hospitalized at Ralph K. Davies since June 16.

Jim was born in Arizona, raised in Oakland, and lived nine years in San Francisco. An accident in 1978 left him a paraplegic and he had been in and out of a succession of hospitals the last few years for complications related to his disability. He enjoyed music and drinking, and fellow patrons of his favorite bars

frequently saw him in his wheelchair in the Pilsner, Transfer, Castro Station and Polk Gulch Saloon.

Until he became ill, he was enjoying a computer job training program at Southeast Community College. He was assisted for the last three years by his faithful companion and aide Armondo. His cat Noren found a happy new home in the Haight with Frank and Mark.

Special thanks to Armondo, Jim's Shanti volunteer, Brad Cochran, and to the staff at Davies for their care. Jim had no known family and no services were held, but he is missed by friends and neighbors.

For further information, call Armondo at 333-6132.

Daniel Lavern Kayner

Born on Halloween in 1957, Daniel Lavern Kayner grew to be a man loved by all who knew him. He was a believer in forgetting yesterdays. He began his 29th year in a search for betterment, knowing life held more than he had asked for.

Dan left us on Sept. 25 in his own hand. He said he didn't wish anyone to grieve over him, rather that we all lift a glass in a toast to him. The fear of having been exposed to AIDS was very heavy on his

mind as was the guilt of several of life's mistakes.

Dan is survived by his family—Mike, Judy, Tim, Shelly and Dave Kayner of Grand Rapids, MI, and by his lover Robin Barthell of Cazadero, CA. He knew he was loved deeply and didn't want to die a burden on anyone.

Good night Danny, we will all feel a loss for having lost you.

Norman J. Landry

A private memorial service was held Aug. 22 for Norman J. Landry, 62, who died July 17 at his home near Palm

Springs after a lengthy struggle with Parkinson's disease.

Born and raised in Nashua, New Hampshire, Landry spent two and a half years in Europe during World War II where he achieved the rank of captain, navigator/bomber in the U.S. Air Force at age 20. His decorations included bronze battle stars, victory ribbon, European/African theatre ribbon, American theatre ribbon, army of occupation ribbon and air medal with oak leaf cluster.

He went on to receive a B.S. degree in economics from the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania and a M.A. in education at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Before his retirement in 1977, Landry taught special education at Balboa High School in San Francisco.

He is survived by a brother, Roy Landry of Nashua, NH and close friend Loren Efanoff of Palm Desert, CA. His ashes were scattered over San Francisco Bay.

Vernon A. Schlenker, Jr.

Vern, born in 1945, passed away after a three-year struggle with AIDS. At his side were his mother, sister and friends. He will long be remembered for his belief in helping others as will be his continued assistance with volunteer work with the Hispanic cultural center and the Tenderloin homeless group.

A memorial will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. Please contact Pacific Interment for directions.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity and taste.

Drug Testing Program Passes—With No \$

by Brian Jones

California last week became the first state to create its own program for testing anti-AIDS drugs. Gov. George Deukmejian signed a bill authored by the legislature's only physician Assemblymember William Filante (R-Marin).

The practical effect of the measure is in doubt, however, because Deukmejian vetoed a companion measure. The vetoed bill would have created a state tax credit for contributions to AIDS research.

Up to \$65 million a year was forecast to have been produced by the tax credit. That was money which would have helped fund the state's research into AIDS treatments under the first bill.

"If this will in any way speed up the research into alternative treatments, we're for it," said Martin Delaney, spokesman for Project Inform, a voluntary group which monitors alternative AIDS therapies.

"This represents an official expression of dissatisfaction with the pace of FDA research in Washington. But whether the state can actually pull it off is another matter," Delaney said.

The FDA—federal Food and Drug Administration—is responsible for reviewing all potential AIDS medicines. The FDA has been condemned by many in the medical community for its slow pace in reviewing possible treatments for AIDS.

"Some did vote for this measure as 'FDA-bashing,'" said Filante. "But we intend to work with the FDA and coordinate research. I introduced this bill because so many people are already using 'guerrilla' clinics around the state. We want to bring them into the research mainstream."

Filante's bill was promoted by state Attorney General John Van de Kamp, an undeclared candidate for governor in 1990. Van de Kamp researched existing state and federal law and declared that the legislature could authorize state drug testing, even though the FDA has for years been the sole reviewer of proposed new medicines.

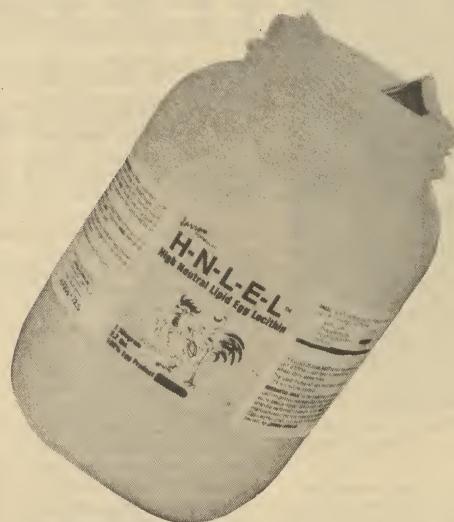
PASSIVE ROLE

Part of the research delay is in the FDA system. The agency itself does not conduct research into AIDS treatments. Rather, it has a passive role—it reviews the experiments of drug companies performed on their own medicines.

Many alternative AIDS treatments come from smaller companies, which lack the resources to perform expensive FDA-approved studies. Thus, some widely used drugs—for example, AL-721—do not have the financial backing they need to support FDA-approved clinical trials.

Van de Kamp said the FDA system is insufficient to meet the AIDS crisis.

"In the face of this extraordinary medical emergency, business as usual just isn't good enough," Van de Kamp said. "This program is not designed to duplicate or compete with federal efforts. It is designed to supplement and strengthen them. We



William Filante

are under no illusion that a cure will be quickly or easily found. But we have no doubt that this state can make a significant contribution."

Only drugs manufactured in California can be tested here. Among the currently used alternative treatments which would qualify are:

- **Ribavirin**, an anti-viral produced by ICN pharmaceuticals of Costa Mesa. Ribavirin first was identified as being effective against the AIDS virus, in the test tube, by the federal Centers for Disease Control late in 1984. But since then the drug maker and the FDA have been locked in dispute over testing protocols.

- **Isoprinosine**, an immune-system modulator manufactured by Newport Pharmaceuticals of Newport Beach. The FDA has so far rejected Newport's research of Isoprinosine as an AIDS treatment.

- **AL-721**, a drug which appears to alter the membranes of immune-system cells so that the cells are more resistant to attack from the AIDS virus. Developed in Israel, AL-721 is licensed in this country to Praxis Pharmaceuticals of Beverly Hills.



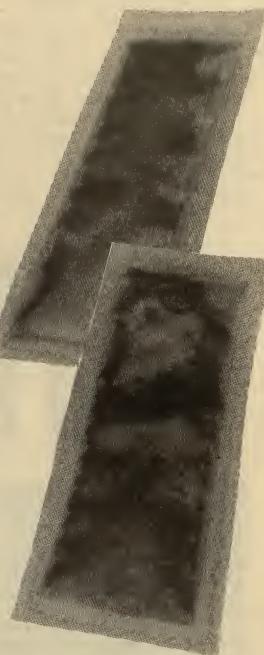
John Van de Kamp

GUERRILLA CLINICS

AL-721 provides an example of the problems faced by those seeking AIDS treatments. Praxis is a tiny start-up drug firm with fewer than 10 employees, and has not been able to launch research of the magnitude which would allow FDA approval.

However, following promising research results in Israel, thousands of people with AIDS, ARC and antibody-positive status worldwide are concocting their own AL-721 at home or in "guerrilla clinics." The active ingredient in AL-721 is being aggressively marketed through the gay press.

(Continued on next page)



SHOULD YOU TAKE THE AIDS ANTIBODY TEST?

Possible Benefits

- People who get test results usually reduce high risk behavior.
- By taking the test, you find out whether or not you can infect others.
- Regardless of the result, testing often increases a person's commitment to overall good health habits.
- People who test negative feel less anxious after testing.

The San Francisco Department of Public Health offers AIDS Antibody Testing which is **voluntary, free and anonymous**. Counselling and referrals are also available. To make an appointment for testing, call **621-4858**.

Possible Disadvantages

- Some people wrongly believe that a negative test result means they are immune to AIDS.
- People who test positive show increases in anxiety and depression.
- When testing is not strictly confidential or anonymous, some people may risk job and insurance discrimination.

For more information about AIDS Antibody Testing, call the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Hotline at **863-AIDS**. Toll-free in Northern CA: (800) FOR-AIDS TDD: (415) 864-6606

YES

NO

Funding for this message provided by the S.F. Department of Public Health.

GET THE FACTS. CONSIDER YOUR FEELINGS. THEN DECIDE.

S.F. AIDS FOUNDATION



Ribavirin — sold over the counter in Mexico, above — is illegal here. It would qualify for study by the state. (Photo: B.A.R.)

Drugs

(Continued from previous page)

However, it is unclear how the state drug program will help research into AL-721, or other modestly funded drugs. Filante said the drug testing law is fund-

ed at just \$600,000, money remaining from an appropriation passed last year for researching an AIDS vaccine.

But in June, Van de Kamp said in a speech that \$25 to \$50 million would be needed to fully fund the drug bill.

Deputy Attorney General Anne Jennings said the drug testing bill "originally had the money in" but that the bill was formally introduced so late in the session that the appropriation was taken out.

At the same time, the AIDS tax

Pharmacy Offers AZT By Mail

CHARLESTON, SC—Retrovir (AZT) is now available to individuals with AIDS at a price below wholesale thanks to a national program announced today by Family Pharmaceuticals of America, Inc. Responding to an article in The Washington Blade, Family Pharmaceuticals vice-president Kim Richardson, R.Ph., stated "We have put together similar programs for individuals with other chronic diseases."

Family Pharmaceuticals of

America, Inc., a South Carolina-based pharmacy which serves patients across the nation through the mail, has agreed to make Retrovir available for approximately \$200 per hundred capsules, including shipping.

Individuals can enroll in the program by calling Family Pharmacy toll free at 1-800-922-3444. For more information, contact W. Kim Richardson, R.Ph., 309 Mill Street, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464.

Integrity Hosts March Celebration

Dr. Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, nationally-known author and feminist theologian, will be the special guest speaker at "A West Coast Celebration of Hope and Solidarity on the Day of the March in Washington" sponsored by Integrity. The celebration will take place at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 11, at St. John's in the Mission, 1661 15th Street, between Mission and Valencia, San Francisco.

Dr. Mollenkott has written many books, including *Is the Homosexual My Neighbor?* and *Gods: Human Responsibility and the Bible*. She will speak on the topic "There's a New World Coming." The National March Celebration will include an ecumenical Eucharist using Integrity's feminist liturgy and a reception following the service. The event is free and everyone is welcome.

Integrity is the national organization for lesbian and gay Episcopalians and their friends. The local chapter celebrates Eucharist for the community at 5:30 p.m. each Sunday at St. John's in the Mission. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Integrity at 431-5859 or Deborah Frangquist at 648-4026.

Gay Labor Groups Meet at AFL-CIO

An Oct. 10 Solidarity Celebration at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, D.C. will bring together lesbian and gay activists from across the country with a host of major national trade union leaders.

The Labor Task Force for the March announced that the event is open to the public. The reception will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 10, in the AFL-CIO lobby, 815-16th St. in downtown Washington, D.C. Lesbian comic Robin Tyler will greet the gathering.

NAMBLA Conf. In Baltimore

The North American Man/Boy Love Association will hold its 1987 Membership Conference beginning Friday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. with an informal reception and continuing through Oct. 10, at the Baltimore Gay and Lesbian Community Center, Maryland and Chase Streets.

John Zeh, the Cincinnati gay activist, will be the keynote speaker. There will be discussions of youth liberation and other issues surrounding man/boy love.

Though the conference is open only to NAMBLA members, anyone interested may join NAMBLA when they register for the conference. Registration costs \$20; after Oct. 1, the cost will be \$30. A low-income rate of \$10 is available.

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Major funding for the educational programs of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is provided by the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Chaos in Fundraising Effort Stalls Santa Clara Hospital Plan

by Wayne Herriford

Plans for an AIDS hospice in Santa Clara County have become snarled in a financial dispute. The dispute has put the Holy Trinity Church, sponsor of a fund drive for the hospice, at odds with a professional fundraiser it hired, Diana Miller.

Randy Hill, pastor of the Holy Trinity Community Church of the Bay Area, chaired a community meeting at the DeFrank Center Wednesday, Sept. 30.

The purpose of the meeting was to dispel rumors which had been circulating through the South Bay concerning the AIDS Hospice Foundation. It's not clear, though, whether rumors were quelled, or enhanced.

Last February, Diana Miller approached Hill with an idea to raise money for a Hospice for people with AIDS in San Jose and the South Bay.

According to Hill, Miller said she had been working on a similar plan for the ARIS project, and was no longer working on it because ARIS had decided to move in a different direction. [ARIS project officials have denied that Miller had any official connection with the ARIS project.]

The hospice project was an idea which many of the members of the church community were in

support of. The church's corporate board formed a group with Miller on March 1, entitled the "AIDS Hospice Foundation of Santa Clara County," and granted the foundation use of the church's tax-exempt status.

Hill says that he later learned that Miller had \$4,000 in loans outstanding due to previous fundraising efforts for a Hospice, and that the foundation was liable for them.

Miller, in an interview, denied that any liabilities from her previous fundraising work would become the responsibility of the Santa Clara hospice foundation.

Hill and Miller spent a number of months researching sites, investigating other hospices throughout the country. It was during this time, according to Hill, that Miller stated that she was a professional fundraiser and that she would charge a percentage of all funds raised.

Because of the large amount of money which they intended to

raise—one and one-half million dollars—Hill and the other church members felt that this was appropriate.

During this time, most of the money raised, according to Hill, went to pay expenses associated with raising it.

An office was opened for the hospice and in early May a press conference was held at former San Jose Mayor Janet Gray Hayes' home, announcing the formation of the Hospice Foundation and its goals.

Considerable criticism was raised throughout the gay community, though, because the "mainstream" gay leadership was not involved, and little information was being made available to the community on the foundation, their goals and their finances.

OFFICIAL COMMITTEE

The Board implemented a variety of operating and financial controls to ensure that everything

was done in accordance with the requirements of nonprofit status. This included regular meetings, tape-recording of the proceedings and certain financial standards relating to receipts, disbursements and the like.

On Aug. 2, Holy Trinity Church decided to make the foundation an "official committee" of the church until the foundation acquired its own tax-exempt status. This placed the church in the position of controlling all donations made to the foundation.

In early August, Henrietta Epstein approached the Interim Foundation Board with a fundraising proposal which she said could raise over \$10,000. According to Hill, she stated that her "fee for this event is 15 percent of the gross or a guarantee of \$1000."

According to the financial report published by the foundation treasurer, Jim Campbell, the event, which was held Aug. 20, raised \$2,045, with expenditures of \$742—including \$300 paid to Epstein. Of the net profit of \$1,300, \$700 is owed to Epstein.

After the fundraiser, Hill says that Miller demanded a salary of \$1,000 per month. Hill and other members of the church had begun to question whether they wished to maintain as close a connection between the foundation and the church.

The churchmembers decided on Aug. 30 that they no longer wished to have the foundation as an "official committee" and were rescinding the agreement. They did agree to allow the foundation to continue to use the nonprofit status of the church until they secured their own. Rev. Hill planned to serve this notice at the Sept. meeting of the foundation board.

When the Sept. 2 meeting came, only Hill, Miller and Campbell were in attendance. According to Hill, Miller arranged with the rest of the members not to attend, so that there would not be a quorum.

Hill says that Miller demanded payment of her salary and that the board members refused, in the absence of a written agreement.

An argument ensued, and Hill says that Miller stated that the church members were going to be replaced on the Board and that a new checking account would be opened and all new money put into this account.

Because there was no quorum present, the church was unable to present the letter, severing its sponsorship of the hospice foundation. It was sent to the rest of the board.

(Continued on page 23)

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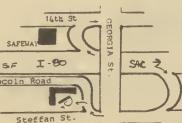
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With All This Torridity

POTLUCK PROMOTION (A "Help Yourself" Nose?)

There is a mystery that I cannot solve. Perhaps someone with a physics/chemistry/logic/common sense background could provide an explanation to satisfy even my limited smarts.

It was hot last Saturday night. Very hot. Inside Cabel's Reef it was hot. The additional heat from all those attending Lady Lennie and Marlow's benefit added considerably to the rising temperatures. "Radiance," perspiration, and just good old fashioned sweat proved just how high the thermometer was going. Even the glaring lights for the performers seemed to give old Sol a run for his money.

With all this torridity—and herein lies the mystery—doesn't it seem plausible that the hot food on the buffet table would remain, at least, tepid? Not so! It must be a law of the universe that when heated food is placed in a situation of equal or greater warmth, it automatically radiates its own to the greater cause, reducing its inner calefaction to below room temperature. Just a thought.

Physics notwithstanding, the benefit at Cabel's Reef was something else! The buffet table was heavily laden with choice goodies—all donated by CR's clientele. The atmosphere was warm(!) and friendly. The entertainment was exceptional. And the attitude of contributing to those with AIDS/ARC who might need assistance was extremely heart warming—with two exceptions! One individual paid for the buffet, loaded up his plate with enough for three, and by golly proceeded to feed two others who hadn't paid. Then, a woman paid, loaded enough for five, and by golly, went ahead and re-fed the four from before! Joe Smith's comment cannot be repeated here.

The Theologian of Telegraph Avenue, Lady Dana, made a heartwrenching plea to all who would listen. She expressed that we all know how devastating AIDS can be, and how generous we can be with our money. But, she continued, just how many of us have actually visited any of the AIDS wards? Just how many of us have stopped to talk with the patients? Just how many of us have cared enough to offer our hand and hearts in friendship? Did any of us ever read to a patient? Wash dishes or clean their house? Let them know we care? And there were too many of us who feel that the patients are dying from AIDS, rather than living with AIDS.

Even though everyone was experiencing sudoresis (sweating!), spirits were exceptional high when the live first show with Joe Smith and Marlow (with Greg Lee at piano) concluded. The Ladies Lennie and Day, plus several others kept the audience in rapture, as well, during the second show.

Raffles were held every hour or so for various and sundry prizes—no, I didn't win anything—and the grand prize of a basket of booze was awarded at midnight. It shouldn't take you too many guesses as to who was selling the raffle tickets. Yep! Paul Moulton!

I sincerely hope that a positive indication has occurred by the appearance of I.S.E. Emperor and Empress IX Carlos and Tootsi. By positive I mean: Tootsi was



Lady Day posed as candidly as she could

in a back brace (and in some pain from dislocated discs)—too exuberant celebrating her victory?) but she showed up anyway.

And, as Carlos told (S.F.) Empress Mae, "I made all the rounds as Empress, now I have to do it all over again as Emperor." Pauditis to both of them.

Oh yes, Little Mother was there, as was Marge, Empress Suzie, Carol, plus most of the regulars of Cabel's Reef. (Jim Malom had a previous commitment, but sent his \$3 anyway; "Win or not, I'll never stop" Raven was not heard from.)

EBAF takes this opportunity to thank everyone involved with the benefit, especially Jack Eberhart, Lady Lennie, Marlow, the tireless bartenders, the food donators, and all those who participated (two said, "I've already eaten, but here's my three bucks donation anyway.") The exact total raised was not known by deadline, but \$121 was collected from the buffet and there was a generous \$100 from Carlos and Tootsi. Additional donations were taken up until 2 a.m.

Thanks to Jerome for the bottle of "Jerome" wine; to Stella for the kind words, hug and kiss; to Marlow—I think!—for giving me yet another moniker, "Debbie Dirt"!

AFFAIR ACROSS THE BAY
(An "I had to take my column over anyway so stop by for a few minutes" Nose?)

Last Sunday, Oct. 4, there was an "Affair" in recognition of and for the benefit of Mark Friese, at the New Bell on Polkstrasse. I really don't feel it necessary to mention why.

Soirees such as this can be like not even leaving home. Ed Paulson was there, as was Little Mother, doing a stint as guest auctioneer. Friend Bob Sander was there, as was the eximious LaKish, from Sacramento. (I can foresee that someday his eye make-up, along with Lady Garret's wig, will wind up in the Smithsonian Institute!) And, could there be any king of happening at New Bell without Ed Kelsey?

It was a damned good turnout, considering the Castro Street Fair, and all.

GALLIMUFRY (A Goulash Nose)

Condolences and solace to Frank, and the family and friends of Bill Dowsing (aka "Tit's Luv It" of Miss \$1.98 fame). Bill passed away in Chico on Sept. 30,

from severe emphysema.

Happy Big Five-O to Patrick, who had a surprise celebration at Revol last Sunday evening, Oct. 4. Some of the presents he received can't even be mentioned here, much less in a family newspaper!

Revol's swan song will be on Halloween night, Saturday, Oct. 31. The bar won't open until 6 p.m. that night in order for Steve to finalize the decorations. "It won't be the usual costumes and laughs type party," said Steve. "The theme will be, 'Just When You Thought It Was Safe To Go Back To Revol'."

I understand that anyone not wearing mostly black will be levied a \$1 door charge, proceeds going to EBAF.

Little Mother and Town & Country have agreed to have an auction for all the "Revol memorabilia" some time in November. I'll keep you posted as to the date and time. As per request of the owners, proceeds will go to EBAF.

You all know about zucchini—it never stops! It seems that the same holds true for the Zucchini Festival held in Hayward. Rob, from Spoiled Brat told me that additional funds from the event have had to be distributed. A good portion will be presented to the East Bay Assistance Fund and to the AIDS Food Bank of the East Bay. Kudos and plaudits to everyone involved.

Next Saturday, Oct. 18, Little Mother will have her auction at Town & Country (not the Revol memorabilia one!), with a fillet mignon dinner for only \$7.50 per person. She needs donations, desperately, so bring them the day of the auction, or call Sammy for pick-up and delivery. All the activity will begin at 4 p.m.

The Imperial Star Empire "Rings of Saturn" Court named its members and family at a meeting last Monday. As soon as I get the list, you'll know who's who.

Everybody knows that you can lead a horse to water, but if you can get him to do the breast stroke, you've really got something! That makes me smile. Love,

Nez

**News — Opinion
Entertainment
All in
Bay Area Reporter.**

T-Room Sex Scandal Titillates Sacramento

6 Arrested, 1 Kills Self After Macy's Stakeout—Boycott Called

by Brian Jones

A tea-room sex scandal, 1950s-style, was the talk of Sacramento last week. It began modestly, and immmodestly, with a stakeout of a Macy's men's room. But all headlines broke loose when the sheriff nabbed his prey: six men charged with misdemeanors.

The sting generated front-page news in one daily paper, and both daily papers printed the names of those arrested. The story was featured on TV news broadcasts three nights running.

But things got deadly serious over the weekend when a seventh suspect, who had not been charged yet, was reported to have committed suicide rather than face arrest.

"The sheriff used a cannon to swat a fly," said Sacramento gay activist Jerry Sloan, president of the Lambda Community Fund.

The sheriff's office and security guards for Macy's staked out the men's room at the store in Sunrise Mall for several weeks, using hidden cameras and microphones.

The store is located in unincorporated Sacramento County northeast of the city, near Interstate-80. It is in a white-bread community where the shopping mall is a central feature of human culture. John Doolittle represents the area in the California Senate.

HIGH PRICE

Sheriff Glen Craig said he staked out the men's room because people complained of sex happening there. Sloan countered that Craig wanted to embarrass the highly visible Sacramento gay community—which opposed him in the last election.

"A high price has been paid for a problem that has some simple remedies," Sloan said. If the sheriff's real motive were to end sex in the men's room, gay community organizations could have helped him accomplish that, Sloan said.

"Sacramento has a highly visible gay community. If the sheriff or Macy's would have asked us, we could have told them how to alleviate the problem—put up signs, have frequent visits by security guards, take doors off the stalls," Sloan said.

"This whole thing has been blown way out of proportion—what the press did, what Macy's did, what the sheriff did."

Because Macy's took part in the stakeout, Sloan and others have suggested a national boycott of the department-store chain. A boycott proposal will be considered at the National March on Washington this week, Sloan said.

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Hospice

(Continued from page 21)

SPLIT FROM CHURCH

The other hospice board members, upon receiving the letter, called an "emergency meeting" over the Labor Day weekend. Hill and Campbell were out of town, and Martzall says that she never received notice.

According to Russ Gamble, this meeting was called to respond to the church's letter. The board decided to form a new board, and disassociate themselves from the church.

Shortly after this meeting the "new" hospice board attempted to freeze the bank account, and asked Hill to surrender the papers and other records of the foundation. Hill refused and has continued to retain these records.

As a result of this conflict, the church sent a letter to the foundation on Sept. 13 revoking the nonprofit status for the foundation.

At this point, Rev. Hill decided to have a community meeting to explain the situation, and ask for community input on the resolution of this problem.

There were approximately 40

people at the meeting. Most people agreed that the problem between the church and the foundation was between them and had no place in open community forums. The church had to decide how they wanted to resolve this problem.

The account which was still controlled by the church has a balance of \$30. There was a reluctance, though, to deposit any money in this account, as it was not clear who would control the funds.

It was the general sentiment of the public forum to find a "neutral" place to deposit funds in the interim.

A committee of three people was appointed to approach established community nonprofit organizations and ask them to act as caretaker of the funds until the matter was resolved.

None of the members of the new hospice board attended the meeting, despite written invitations which were sent by Rev. Hill. Repeated telephone calls were made to all members of the current Interim Board. Only Russ Gamble and Diana Miller responded.

Miller said that the hospice board had retained legal counsel and that she was not a liberty to discuss very much. She did say, however, that Holy Trinity church has "refused to meet with the foundation. I don't think that they want to resolve it... It's not going to stop the foundation."

Miller said that because the church would not turn over the books and other financial records of the foundation, that several funding opportunities had been lost. She was also emphatic that "the AIDS Hospice Foundation had not inherited the debts of Diana Miller" in connection with any of the prior fundraising activities.

NO TIME TO WAIT

As for the Hospice itself, there was a variety of sentiments ex-



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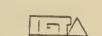
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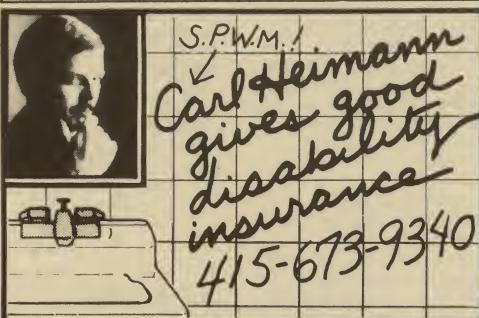
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THIS



Gwen Avery will play at the Artemis Cafe
Oct. 10
(Photo: Rink)

FRIDAY 9

- **A Late Snow:** stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$12. Jane Chambers' romantic comedy returns to Rhino for its 10th anniversary season. Call 861-5079 for tickets.
- **Tim Miller:** multi-media performance, Footwork Studio, 3221 22 St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. "Some Golden States" will receive its world premiere as part of the Edge Festival. Call 824-5044 for tickets and more information.
- **Sue Brunsipe and Lisa Christensen:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., \$3-\$5 sliding scale. Blues and jazz with special guests Teresa Chandler, Donyelle Carter, and Sande French and Band.
- **Sing-A-Long:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Christianity, Feminism, and Homosexuality:** an address with responses by Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, feminist theologian and author of *Is the Homosexual My Neighbor: Another Christian View, The Divine Feminine: Biblical Imagery of God as Female, and Goddings: Human Responsibility and the Bible*, among other books, San Francisco Theological Seminary, 2 Kensington Rd., San Anselmo, 8 PM. Part of a weekend with Virginia Mollenkott sponsored by a coalition of lesbian and gay religious groups in the Bay Area. Call 457-1115, 338-1541, 268-9534, or 863-4434 for more information.

SATURDAY 10

- **Harvest Moon Boat Cruise:** sponsored by Bay Area Career Women, boarding at Pier 41 at 7:30 PM, returning at 1 AM, members \$35, non-members \$45. Cruise aboard the *Royal Star* with music by City Lights and hors d'oeuvres by Cafe Bedford. An event for women. Call 495-5393 for more information.
- **Country and Western Jamboree:** birthday party for Billy Ray and Ronny Lynn, Covered Wagon, 5th and Folsom, S.F., 9 PM-1 AM, free. Featuring Linda Lane and Western Electric.
- **This Brooding Sky:** stage performance, Room 456, Small Forum, Cabrillo College, Santa Cruz, 8 PM, \$4. A lesbian satire of gothic novels by Sarah Dreher, directed by Kate McDermott, and sponsored by the 1987 Lesbian Theatre Project of Santa Cruz.
- **A Late Snow:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Tim Miller:** multi-media performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Gwen Avery:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5-\$7 sliding scale.
- **Mark Levine:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.
- **Marion Zimmer-Bradley:** author and speaker, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, event starts 8:30 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale. Marion Zimmer-Bradley is the author of many women's science fiction/fantasy novels. Call 293-9372 for more information.
- **An Evening With Virginia Mollenkott:** especially for members of gay religious groups, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 457-1115, 338-1541, 268-9534, or 863-4434 for more information.



Join the throngs at El Rio every Sunday

SUNDAY 11

- **Dreamland:** to celebrate the March on Washington and the Names Project, Harrison and Third sts., S.F., 6 PM to midnight, \$5. Music by Ron Baer, lights by Greg Fleming.

- **There's a New World Coming: A West Coast Celebration of Hope and Solidarity on the Day of the March on Washington:** feminist liturgy and eucharist with homily by Virginia Mollenkott, Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM, free. Reception will follow. Call 863-4434 for more information.

- **A Late Snow:** stage performance, 3 and 8 PM, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

- **This Brooding Sky:** stage performance, Moraga Hall, UC Santa Cruz (see Friday listing for details).

- **Candela:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, cover, Salsa.

- **Jene Bombardier:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5 PM, \$5. Call 431-0253 for reservations.

- **Dell Madill:** music, The Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. With Mercy Oria. Call 431-0253 for reservations.

- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

- **Different Spokes/San Francisco:** decide and ride. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 10 AM to decide on a ride.

- **Tsunami Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, Third and Carroll sts., S.F., 10 AM to noon. Call 285-5659 for more information.

- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** men's brunch and games for older gay men (60+) and friends, Francis of Assisi Community Center, 145 Guerrero St., S.F., noon to 3 PM, bring food to share. Call 626-7000 for more information.

- **Do People Here and Now Need a Good Shepard?** worship service with Virginia Mollenkott, who will give a feminist analysis for men and women, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM. Call 863-4434 for more information.

- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship and communion service, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for more information.

- **Integrity:** informal Eucharist for the community, St. John's Church, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM.

- **Affirmation:** gay and lesbian Mormons, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7 PM. Call 641-4554 for more information.

WEEK

• **Radiant Light Ministries:** Sunday celebration of love and life, Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St., S.F., 10 AM. Call 861-1667 for more information.

• **New Life MCC:** worship and communion service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 PM. Call 843-9355 for more information.

• **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 6 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.

• **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.

• **Latter-Day Saints:** sacrament meeting for lesbians and gays and their friends, Sacramento Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St., Sacramento, 1 PM. Conducted by the Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ. Call (916) 447-5755 for more information.

• **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.

• **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.

MONDAY 12

• **Opal and Ashwin Batish:** music, I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F., doors open 9 PM, show starts 10:30 PM, \$6.

• **The Buddy Connection:** a safe-sex workshop for gay and bisexual men, San Francisco MCC, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 7-10 PM. Sponsored by the S.F. AIDS Foundation. Call 863-AIDS for more information.

• **S.F. Jacks:** civil disobedience night, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-8:30 PM, \$6.

• **Making Friends With Anger:** deadline for registration for 7-week series that begins Oct. 22. Call 821-4788 for more information.

• **Low-Impact Aerobics:** Amelia's, 647 Valencia St., S.F., 6-7 PM, \$4.

• **Evening Group Orientation:** for people with AIDS or ARC, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 333 Valencia St., 4th floor, S.F., free. Assistance in interpreting financial benefit systems, applying for government assistance programs, and information on social service agencies and discounts available. Call 864-4376 to reserve a space.

• **Community United Against Violence:** support group for battered gay men, 514 Castro St., S.F., 7:30-9:30 PM, free. Call 864-3112 for more information.

• **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** PWA/ARC support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.

• **AIDS Project of the East Bay:** family, friends, and lovers support group, 6-8 PM. Call 420-8181 for more information.

• **Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays:** meeting, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 8 PM. Call 372-9014 or 827-2960 for more information.

TUESDAY 13

• **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

• **Diablo Valley MCC:** choir practice, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7 PM. Call 827-2960 for more information.



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

WEDNESDAY 14

• **A Late Snow:** stage performance, \$10 (see Friday listing for details).

• **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

• **Open Mike Cabaret:** with Katibelle Collins and Lauren Mayer, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 PM.

• **Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators:** meeting, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, potluck and social 6:30-7:30 PM, Rich Nichols, member of the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission, will speak from 7:30 to 8:30 PM. Call (408) 978-5751 or (408) 293-0608 for more information.

• **Introduction to Transcendental Meditation:** San Francisco MCC social hall, 150 Eureka St., S.F., free. Call 668-1274 for more information.

THURSDAY 15

• **When Mama Comes:** stage performance, Studio Eremos, 401 Alabama St., S.F., 8 PM, \$7. An obnoxious new comedy directed by David Pellegrini and produced by the Rasputin Theater Company about how Mama learns her son's beloved, "Buffy," is another boy. Call 621-8875 for tickets.

• **Mark Zerga:** music, Teddy Bears, 131 Gough St., S.F., 8:30 PM, free. A showcase of Bay Area songwriters. Call 885-44390 for more information.

• **A Late Snow:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 PM.

• **Open Mike Comedy:** with Darlene Popovic and friends, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-9 PM.

• **Black and White Men Together:** rap on interracial relationships, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 931-BWMT for more information.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park, S.F., at 6:30 PM. No-host dinner follows, beginners welcome. Call 647-3227 or 337-8704 for more information.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

Correction

★ In this past week's issue of B.A.R., in the centerfold section, "This Week," it was stated that Sylvester "may appear" and "is expected to appear" at the Boy Dance Party, Saturday, Nov. 3 at Sutter's Mill.

Although vaguely worded, this was false advertising by the promoters of this party, Benjamin B. Dhong, Ramiro Garcia, and Gary Johnson. (Sutter's Mill is in no way responsible for this situation being an acquired facility.)

I regret this error in advertising was made and any resulting disappointments from expecting Sylvester to perform. A performance at this party, as implied, nor this advertising, was simply never discussed or authorized by this office.

Tim McKenna
Borzoi Music Artists
Management for Sylvester

★ Through an unfortunate misunderstanding of our press release, a notice was printed in the BAR which indicated that Sylvester may appear at the (invitation only) BOY Party on Oct. 3 — The intimation being that Sylvester might be performing.

To set the record straight, Sylvester had been personally invited to attend — and not to perform. Unfortunately, this distinction may not have been as clearly outlined in our press release.

As a further clarification, we had nothing to do with the inclusion of Sylvester's photograph in the Calendar section.

I would, however, like to personally take responsibility for this misunderstanding and extend a sincere apology both to Sylvester and to his many disappointed fans who may have expected him to perform.

Benjamin B. Dhong

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BAY AREA REPORTER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

A New Challenge

Kenneth Dixon Takes Over Reins At Rhino, Hopes To Provide New Angles For Theatre

by Wendell Ricketts

In this time, Kenneth Robert Dixon has been a clinical psychologist, a corporate personnel manager, a fundraiser for a major San Francisco hospital, a computer consultant, and an ex-patriot.

When he begins his tenure as Theatre Rhinoceros' new Artistic Director on Monday, Oct. 12, however, he returns full time to the theatre world that has been his abiding love since college days.

As a graduate student at Boston University, Dixon made his first stage appearance in Jonathan Katz' *Coming Out*, a fictional-historical review based on vignettes that later became part of Katz' *Gay American History*. That was nearly 17 years ago. More recently, San Francisco audiences have seen Dixon as Wilhelmina Windsong, the statuesque drag queen with soul to spare, in Adele Prandini and Sue Zemel's *Pulp and Circumstance*.

Born in Chicago, Dixon lived and worked in several East and West Coast cities before traveling to Europe in 1980. What began as a vacation in Holland became a five-year stint with Amsterdam's American Repertory Theatre. Dixon's Dutch sojourn placed him in a long tradition of black artists who have found Europe more conducive to their artistic and social existence.

Says Dixon, "Like lots of other Americans, I was raised to believe that if I studied hard and worked hard, I could have anything I wanted. In some ways, I guess, I'm still an idealist. But my idealism was pretty seriously dashed in the mid-1970s—particularly when I worked in the corporate world. Living in Europe allowed me to develop some distance on how angry one could get with America.

"Before I left, I recall being so conscious that if I picked up an issue of Time magazine with an article about psychologists and one of them happened to be black, the magazine would identify them as Dr. So-and-So, Dr. So-and-So, and Black Psychologist Dr. So-and-So. And that always bothered me. So it was amazing to live in Amsterdam where, for the first time in my life, my race was not the first thing that came up. It allowed me to stop being black first and become gay first—who happened to be black. That eased a lot of tension for me."

A DIFFERENT MINORITY

Whether as a gay man in the black community or a black man in the gay community, however, Dixon has the experience of being a minority within a minority. The situation, he finds, is not without its ironies.

"When we join a minority community, we don't leave our old stuff behind," he explains. "We just bring it with us. In the gay community of the late 60s and early 70s, for example, a lot of the racial biases people had



Theatre Rhinoceros Artistic Director Ken Dixon

before they came out simply followed them into being gay. So the fact that there were black gay men and white gay men and Hispanic gay men did not stop these discriminating against each other."

Dixon believes that his experience—in both his personal and

professional lives—will be particularly useful to Theatre Rhinoceros as it continues to expand its outreach into the women's and minority communities. Such expansion, of course, does not come without growing pains.

The occasional chauvinism of gay audiences manifests itself in

the complaint from some men that they don't like seeing "women's" shows, and the parallel complaint from a few women. That debate notwithstanding, Dixon envisions the Theatre Rhinoceros experience becoming more widely available to technicians, playwrights, actors and audiences throughout San Francisco.

"Given the health crisis we're all facing together," he notes, "this is no time to be isolationist."

Dixon adds, "I hope that we continue to increase the audience that is our mainstay, which is the white male audience. But we also recognize that there's a 40 percent subscription base at Rhino. And we're in the middle of the Mission, so we have to become conscious of the audience that is literally in our back yard—and of Hispanic and black actors.

"Our commitment to fostering gay artists and to encouraging the gay sensibility in theatre remains absolute," Dixon asserts, "but within that context I'd like to see the theatre really challenge its audience over the coming years."

Indeed, Dixon comes on board at Rhino at a time when the theatre is inaugurating one of its most diverse seasons ever. Currently slated, for example, are two new productions with mixed casts, including Doug Holsclaw's *In the Summer When It's Hot and Sticky* and Leland Moss' *Quisibes*; "men's" shows like *Dancing in the Dark*;

"women's" shows such as *A Late Snow* and *Going to Seed*, a comedy about three generations of black women living in Los Angeles; and, in the Studio, Noel Griege's *London Gay Sweatshop* original, *Poppies*; Al Carmines' Gertrude Stein cantata, *In Circles*, which appears with Christopher Berg's *Frank O'Hara Greets the Sun*; and a biographical drama of the rather odd and passionate life of writer Jane Bowles.

As he approaches his work at Theatre Rhinoceros, Dixon anticipates that Rhino will continue to provide leadership in areas that other theatres are generally reluctant to touch, including alternative casting. "I'm looking for those opportunities," Dixon says, "where by changing races or by mixing the races of a gay couple, for example, you can change the whole tenor of a play—can bring in a new dimension or make the play a lot more political, if you will. Particularly in the season I'm going to be involved in choosing, I'd like to see some plays that allow us to cast more broadly."

San Francisco audiences may recall ACT's latest *A Christmas Carol*, in which the Cratchett family was cast without respect to race. "If we do something like that," muses Dixon, "do we always address the issues it raises? It's an interesting dramatic issue. Sometimes, though, I believe that theatre is magic. When you do your job well, you purposely suspend reality for an audience. If it's effective, after

(Continued on page 38)

A Personal Search For Clarity

What To Do 'When Mama Comes'

by Joseph Bean

Some of the questions gay people have always had to deal with just won't go away. Every gay man, every lesbian, and every couple has to come up with their own answers. One of the sticky problems is what to do when Mother visits, often a much more tricky question than it seems.

When Mama Comes, a new play by Jean Stein which opens tonight at Studio Eremos, considers just that question. It also examines how the parents and friends of gays can and do handle the reality of homosexuals turning up in their straight worlds.

Stein, who is a married woman with a three-year-old child, recently has been experiencing a major shift in her own sexuality. She sees her own work on *Mama* as a cathartic experience. In the process, she has interviewed members of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), and talked to people in alternate

sexuality groups at Pacific Center. She has also worked very closely with her cast and crew. "Some are straight," she says, "some are gay, and the others are 'a little crooked'."

The play is just one result of Stein's personal search for clarity on the subject of sexuality. The other, very integrally related side of the issue is more personal than artistic. "I don't see my coming to terms with this 180-degree change in my own sexuality as a battle," she says. "I look at it as enlightenment in terms of my intellect and emotions." So personal consciousness-raising and the playwright's craft intertwine here as they do in the best of dramatic writing.

Stein is not, by the way, dropping out of the straight world. Despite her new understanding of herself and the fact that she has become "homosexual," she feels committed to the relationship she has with her

(Continued on page 38)

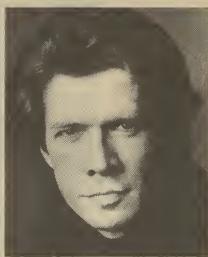


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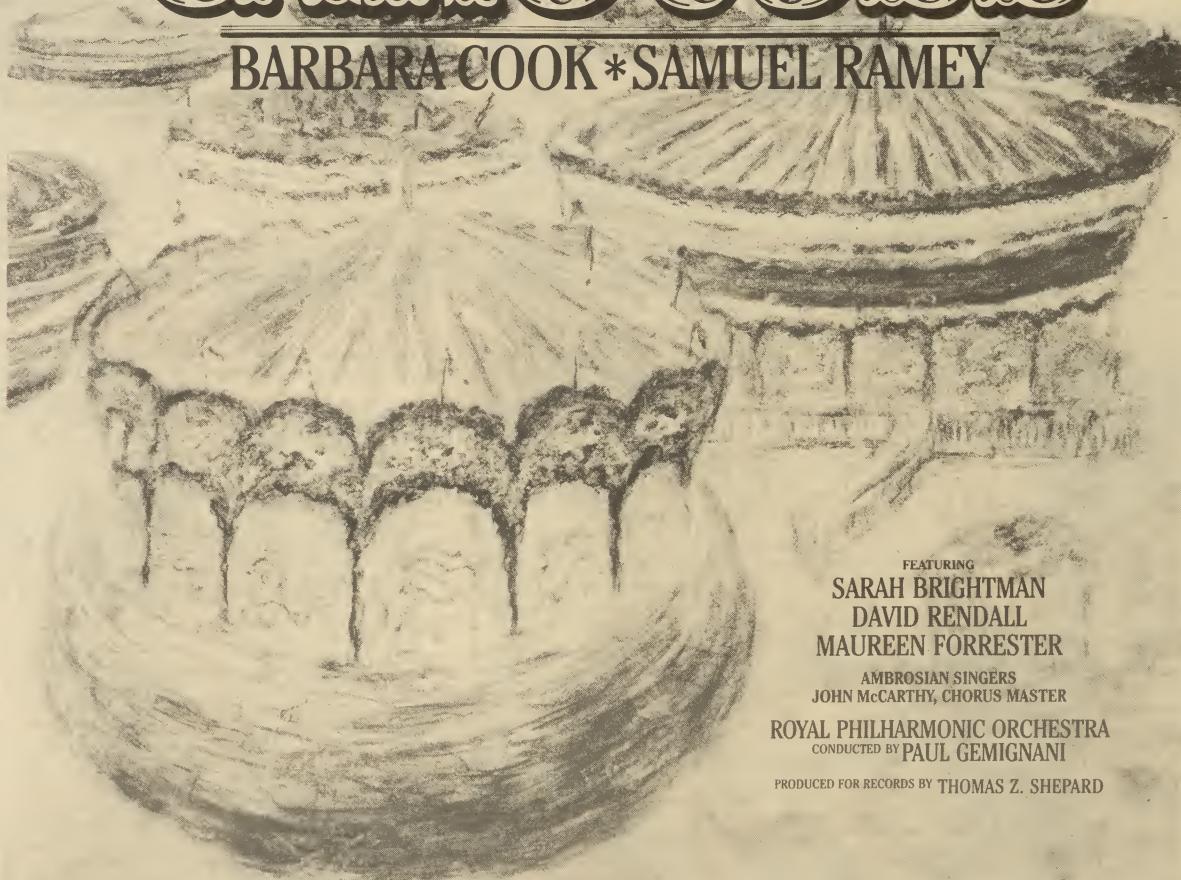
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STAGE

Local Playwright 'Doomed' To Succeed

by Joseph Bean

A Fable: Once upon a time, somewhere around 1950, a healthy baby boy was born to a woman who—for what must have seemed compelling reasons—gave him up for adoption. He was adopted by a nice Chicago family, and the same adoptive parents also took in yet another baby boy a little later.

Eventually baby boy A grew up. He knew he wanted to meet his birth mother. His first adoptive mother had died in the meantime, and he'd never been close to his adoptive stepmother.

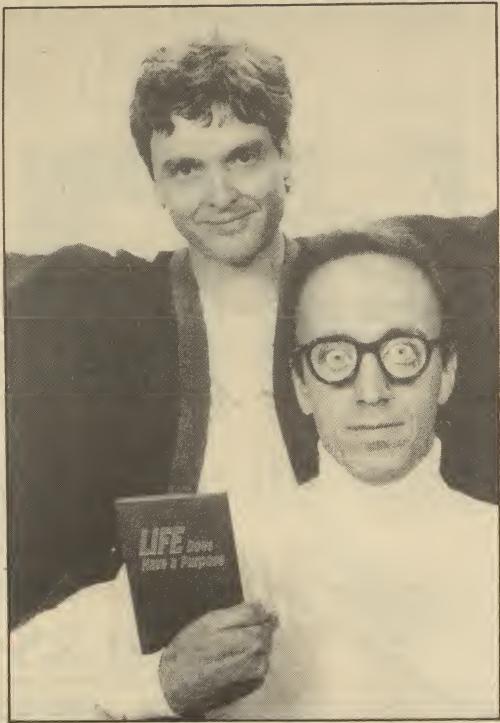
Baby B grew up too, of course. He grew up gay and moved to San Francisco to frolic with his gay "brothers and sisters," adopting them and their ways, and being adopted by them.

Baby A grew up to be Gary Aylesworth. After establishing himself as a successful actor and all-around theatre pro in the Midwest, he became a respected playwright-performer, author of nearly a dozen plays including *The Bohemian Grove*.

But he still wanted to meet his mother.

Aylesworth's successes in the theatre were based on the encouragement and instruction of his mentor, Joel Gersmann of the famous Broom Street Theatre in Madison, Wisconsin. His style, which he describes as "transformational and organic in the way that Charles Ludlam's work is," found its way to the growing edge of the performing arts. His skill as a writer and performer grew too. (And is growing still.)

But he still wanted to meet his mother. Then he did, and that is where the biographical fable of Gary Aylesworth's life becomes plot A of his new play, *The Doom Folk: Millions Now Living Will Never Die*.



Gary Aylesworth and Peter Newton in *The Doom Folk: Millions Now Living Will Never Die* (Photo: A. Nomura)

Aylesworth's recent plays have centered on themes of gender identification. They have been especially addressed to the broad San Francisco "alternative culture" with which the playwright associates himself: feminists, the gay community, changing men, and the women's community. Now, just as real as George Schultz in *The Bohemian Grove*, we'll get to see Aylesworth as Aylesworth in *The Doom Folk*.

When Aylesworth finally made contact with his mother, he found that she was a Jehovah's Witness. This meant, among other things, that her "religious convictions didn't allow even tolerance" of Aylesworth's gay brother, or of his own "West Coast" lifestyle. In an effort to understand her, he put in a lot of hours reading and researching the Witnesses.

That's where he discovered the true story of Raymond Franz

(Continued on page 38)

Actors Enjoy The Challenge of *Irma Vep*

by Joseph W. Bean

Jamie Baron and Tom Aulino—the two men who are the complete cast of men, women, monsters, and "others" for Charles Ludlam's *The Mystery of Irma Vep*—are opposite images of the boy next door.

There is nothing coy or sultry or secretive about either of them offstage. When they talk about their past and the work they are doing, the blond cutie (Baron) and the blonde beauty (Aulino) seem to become (in some "Ludlamaniacal" way) one person.

When asked about the old movie references *Irma* is based on, Baron began counting the titles. "Rebecca" is the main one, of course," he said. By then, Aulino was going nose to nose, knuckle to knuckle with Baron, the two of them running off a list: *Gaslight*, *Jane Eyre*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Nosferatu* (as opposed to *Dracula*), *The Mummy's Curse*, *Wolfman*...

Then they listed the movie stars recalled by the characters in the play: Judith Anderson, Peter Lorre, Bela Lugosi, etc. "And," Baron added, "there's a brief homage to Tina Louise." Aulino's eyes sparkled, "How EVER Bar," he said.

The thing that had become most impressively obvious about Baron and Aulino was that they would definitely work together. "This is a two-character show,"

Aulino said, "so first of all, people have to get along."

"*Irma Vep* is a very special style of comedy," Baron said, "you have to be able to do it, to play men's and women's roles, and to deal with the tech."

The tech that Baron was talking about is at the very heart of the play. It's a matter of changes of costume, wig, and character in seconds, over and over, back and forth. "That's the challenge," Aulino said, "to be able to make the changes and always step back onstage as the other character." To make the impossible changes happen, the backstage crew includes three dressers, none of whom have a hand free all evening.

"It feels like you're onstage all the time," Baron said without the slightest sign of distaste. In fact, both of the guys seem to be thrilled by the technical challenge of playing three to six characters each (depending how you understand the play), and having to make them as separate or overlapping as Ludlam's script requires.

"It's important for people to realize that there are only the two of us onstage," one of the guys said, but I had long since stopped keeping note of which one said what.

Nonetheless, there are two other actors in the *Irma Vep*

cast. One is an inflatable bedmate. The other is a mummy with incredible torpedo-tits.

Aulino, who plays Jane, Lord Edgar Hillcrest, and an Intruder, was cast to do these roles in Ludlam's own production of *Irma Vep* which was intended to come to San Francisco a few years ago. Then, when the playwright became ill (AIDS), the production was delayed; when he died, in May of 1984, the touring *Irma* was abandoned.

Baron, who never met Ludlam, played the same group of characters in the Chicago production of *Irma* that he plays in the current San Francisco show: Lady Enid Hillcrest, Nicodemus, and Alcazar. But, excepting a video of himself in the show, Baron has never had a chance to see *Irma Vep*.

The two actors attended Northwestern University at the same time, and yet they never met at school. When they did meet, it was backstage while Aulino was doing Charles Busch's *Lesbian Vampires of Sodom* in New York. A friend of Baron's had recommended Aulino to work with him in the new *Irma* when the Chicago show closed. And, the moment they met they knew it would work.

At the time, strangely, Aulino was planning a move to Chicago where Baron already lived. As it (Continued on page 38)

BOOKS

Shilts' Book Shows Politicization of AIDS

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON: Politics, People, and the AIDS Epidemic

by Randy Shilts
St. Martin's Press; \$24.95

by Paul Reed

This book clearly marks a watershed in the course of the AIDS epidemic. Exhaustively researched, compellingly written, and utterly devastating in its revelations, *And the Band Played On* is clearly headed for the bestseller lists, and, therefore, into the consciousness of mainstream America.

And it will be a shocked consciousness, when it gets there. San Francisco Chronicle gay reporter Randy Shilts shows that it would have been possible to avert some of the disaster of the AIDS epidemic, had the Reagan Administration and others responded to the crisis in a timely and non-political way.

This may not sound like news. Haven't we all been keenly aware of the niggardliness of the government's response to AIDS? But what distinguishes the reportage in this book is that Shilts has obtained internal government memoranda through the Freedom of Information Act, memoranda that show how the slow response of the administration to the early AIDS epidemic was deliberate, clearly understood, and disgracefully inadequate.

Everything that we have suspected might have happened actually did happen—deliberate ignoring of pleas for more funding, public pronouncements of research activity that simply was not being done, and the refusal of government and academic researchers to admit that there even was an epidemic.

Shilts points out that the gay community mobilized with lightning speed to form organizations to deal with the epidemic. The community also showed its political side in fighting the bathhouse closure.

But in all fairness to the gay community—all the politicization notwithstanding—it is shocking to read here that as early as 1982 the Center for Disease Control knew that the disease was infectious, that it was a sexually transmitted viral agent. They knew this from epidemiologic studies, yet everyone played a game—a deadly game, as it turned out—of waiting until there was "hard" evidence.

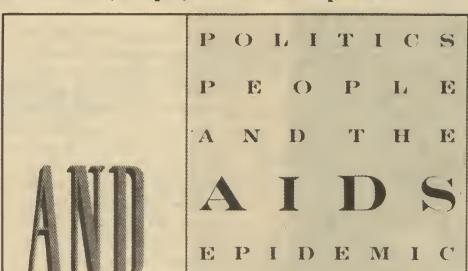
Until there was hard evidence of a virus, everyone waffled on their warnings. The government wouldn't make firm recommendations.

Fort Mason Hosts 'Pulp'

by Joseph W. Bean

Theatre Rhinoceros' production of *Pulp* and *Circumstance* has returned to San Francisco for a limited two-week run at Life on the Water at Fort Mason Center. The original musical comedy is a spoof of lesbian pulp novels of the 1950s and all sorts of related subjects, but has certainly found and pleased audiences that don't remember the 1950s and are not all-lesbian.

After playing its scheduled run at Rhinoceros, June 13 to July 18, the play was extended through July 26 by popular demand. Then, funded by a benefit performance of *Rhino*, *Pulp* was sent to Los Angeles where it played three very successful performances in the 400-seat West Hollywood Park Theatre as part



THE BAND PLAYED ON

RANDY SHILTS

dations, public health departments were reticent to suggest avoiding the disease by avoiding sexual activity, and the gay community refused to acknowledge the dire nature of the epidemic until it could be "proven" to be infectious.

Shilts points out that the gay community mobilized with lightning speed to form organizations to deal with the epidemic. The community also showed its political side in fighting the bathhouse closure.

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Until there was hard evidence of a virus, everyone waffled on their warnings. The government wouldn't make firm recommendations.

when the virus entered the United States—through 1985, when Rock Hudson's death made AIDS front-page news. Though this is a factual, historical book, Shilts uses a novelistic approach, creating a strong narrative that spans the globe, showing simultaneous events in a chronological order with the style of "faction" writing.

Perhaps the most chilling story told here is that of the gorgeous airline steward, Gaetan Dugas, who was allegedly the man who brought AIDS into America in 1976. His story is traced as he jet-set between coasts, spreading the AIDS virus in the late 1970s.

This book is both an enraged expose and a deeply moving tale of heroism. It will undoubtedly shake America to its core in the coming months, and there is no doubt that this book will serve as a major catalyst for immediate leadership in the fight against AIDS at both the national and international level.



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In recent years, princesses have become a despised breed. If they're not pricking themselves until they bleed—thus causing a whole kingdom to go to sleep for a hundred years—they're whining about their apartments, their clothes, and trying to make people believe that, even though it may be hidden under fourteen mattresses, they can't get to sleep because they can still feel a lousy little pea jabbing them in the back.

Why do these women insist on being such royal pains in the ass? Why do so many princesses insist on making such unrealistic demands? I suspect it's gone way past the point of noblesse oblige. These days, if they don't ask for furs and sables, they want a condo in Palm Springs. The kinky ones have started asking for some religious zealot's head on a silver platter.

CABBAGE PATCH

When word hit Herb Caen's



Herodias (Helga Dernesch) exults in her daughter's perversity during Richard Strauss' *Salome*

column that some irate opera queen who was dissatisfied with the sounds coming from the orchestra pit planned to land a cabbage on Sir John Pritchard's

head, I surmised that *anything* was fair game. Truly, there have been nights when Sir John deserved much more than cabbage — perhaps a salad bar for

starters.

But on the night I attended the San Francisco Opera's revival of *Salome* he didn't do too badly. Although he did not wear a helmet to the podium, at the end of the performance I was amused to see a flock of ushers form a "Cabbage Patch Brigade" along the orchestra pit rail to prevent people from taking aim (with anything more embarrassing than a posy of pansies) at the San Francisco Opera's music director.

What made this revival of *Salome* so interesting for me was the effect supertitles had on strengthening its dramatic impact. When first seen in 1982, the production depended on Josephine Barstow's definitive portrayal of the Judean princess and the initial shock value of seeing the best local beefcake (Bill Tilman's towering executioner remains the stuff from which wet dreams spring) done up in costumes inspired, no doubt, by the Mercury Mail Order catalog. Alas, once the initial titillation of fresh beef on the hoof wears thin, the production now looks like a cheap attempt to mount *Salome* with an accountant's eye to the bottom line.

Thankfully, supertitles focus the audience's attention on the dramatic action rather than on such flashy gimmicks as Narraboth's blue body paint or the rippled abdominals on a gaggle of girls from Gold's. Gwyneth Jones' *Salome* proved to be a pleasant surprise. Despite a somewhat ludicrous Dance of the Seven Veils (which reminded me of the intensely "interpretive" choreography I used to see in high school productions during the 1960s), the Welsh soprano paced herself well and managed to stay on pitch throughout the evening.

Although Michael Devlin's ghost-like Jokanaan was well sung, James King's Herod did little to excite me. As usual, the magnificent Helga Dernesch walked off with the show (this woman can communicate more to an audience by lifting a finger than most artists can when expending 100 percent of their energy). She is refreshingly blunt.

GYPSY FEET

Over at the Presentation Theatre, the Lamplighters offered a rare production of *The Czardas Princess*. Emmerich Kalman's score—which is filled with gypsy violins doused in schmaltz—and the English book by Nigel Douglas (which contained enough sugar to threaten a diabetic's life) were mildly entertaining but, more often than not, seemed a little forced.

When the Lamplighters stray from their bread and butter repertoire of Gilbert & Sullivan to dabble in Viennese operetta their is absolutely no need to remind audiences that they are the keepers of the Savoyard flame. Much of Gregg Tallman's direction seemed excessively heavy-handed, especially his insistence on having several characters affect English accents. The comic relief offered in the form of John Hiestand's overly energetic and gushing portrayal of the gushing Count Leo Kanscianu quickly became tiresome.

As Sylva Varescu, the cabaret singer who becomes known throughout America as the Gypsy Princess, Vivian Clare seemed much more like an older woman deserving of a young prince's sec-

ond affair than his first big love.

However, I greatly enjoyed B. Matthew Thompson's earnest and honest matinee idol portrayal of Prince Edwin Ronald as well as William Neely's good-natured performance as Bela von Kerkers. Strongly-etched cameos were delivered by John Ziaja as Prince Lippert-Weylersheim, Eddie Shine as his wife, the Princess Anhilt, and John Oddo as the Baron Eugen von Rohnsdorff.

GETTING A HANDEL ON THINGS

While I have long been an avid supporter of the Opera Theatre of St. Louis, I must confess that this year's production of Handel's *Alcina* was one of the most god-awful nights I have ever spent at the opera. Stephen Wadsworth's stage direction was the work of a pretentious high school naif and, although this baroque opera may have been exquisitely sung by a cast of talented young artists (Sylvia McNair, Julianne Gondek, Lucille Beers, Alice Baker, John Kuether and Peter Kazaras) what transpired on stage was so appallingly misguided that even the professional people in the audience were wincing in embarrassment as the evening progressed.

Despite John Nelson's superb musical direction, Wadsworth's execrable approach to staging *Alcina* turned the event into a rare opportunity to watch a director drown in his own sh-tick. The one saving grace of the evening—and a dubious one at that—was the fact that, because I was suffering from a severe allergy attack, my tearing eyes, running nose and general physical distress managed to dissipate my rage at witnessing such substandard shit being served to an undeserving audience.

Let me explain why. Just as there are freelance writers who devise wonderful query letters but consistently fail to deliver the article they have proposed, there are stage directors who concoct theatrical concepts which, in pre-production discussions, seem intellectually brilliant. Unfortunately, once they hit the stage, these concepts fail miserably to communicate the essence of an opera to the audience.

I fear this is the problem hounding Stephen Wadsworth, whose directorial concept thoroughly ruined the Minnesota Opera's recent production of *The Postman Always Rings Twice*. Several years ago, when speaking on a panel at the Central Opera Service conference in Chicago, Wadsworth (then freshly brutalized by the critics for his staging of the world premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *A Quiet Place*) grasped a rare opportunity to take the musical press to task for its negativity and lack of support. At that time, I reminded him that few critics derive genuine pleasure from writing a bad review. Indeed, having to do so often gives us great pain.

Unfortunately, at a certain point, one is forced by a sense of professional responsibility to describe an abominable piece of shit as an abominable piece of shit. It is my sad duty to report that Wadsworth's disastrous staging of *Alcina* in St. Louis fell into that category with a deafening thud.

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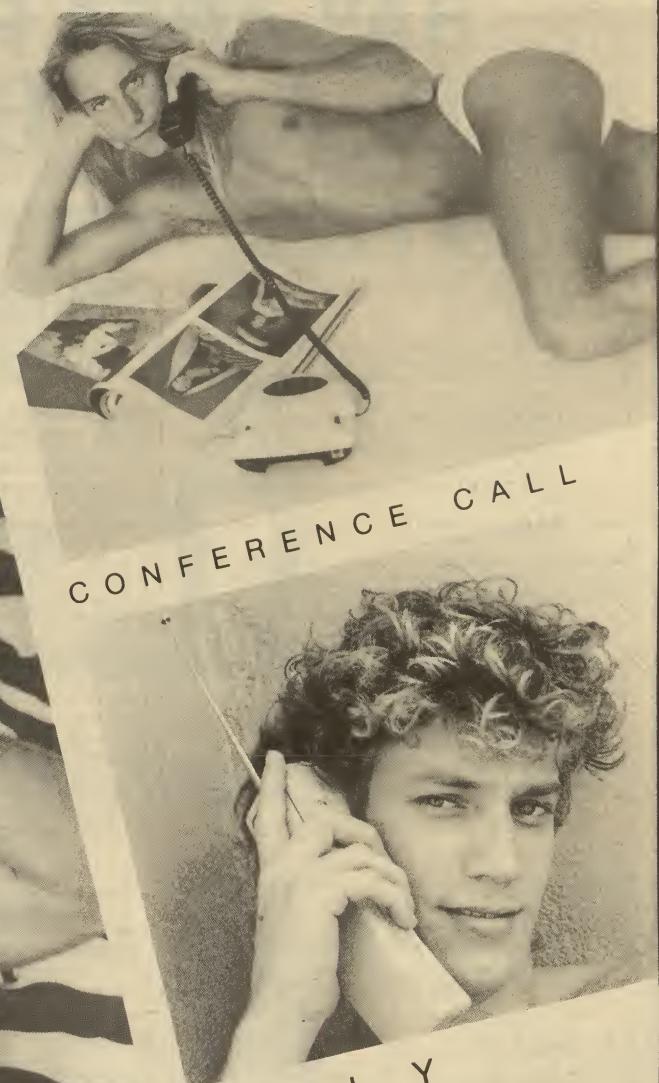
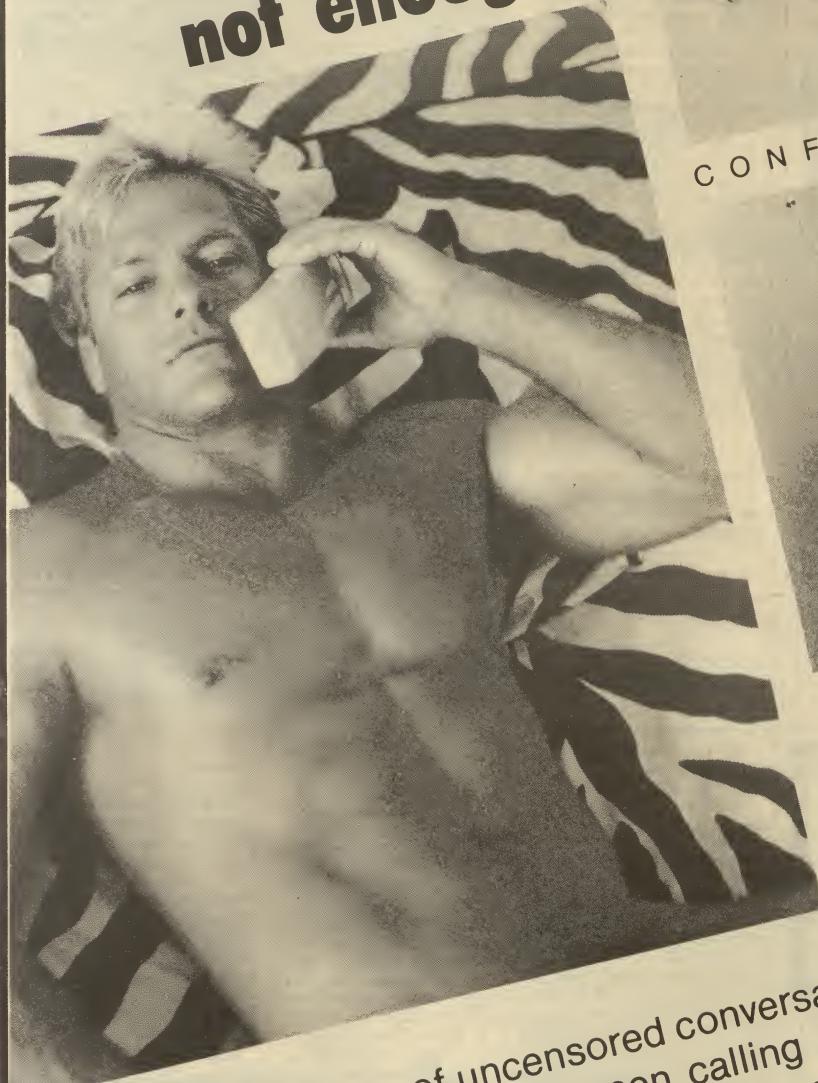
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Mr. Marches

Twisted Trauma From Thursday's Tripewriter

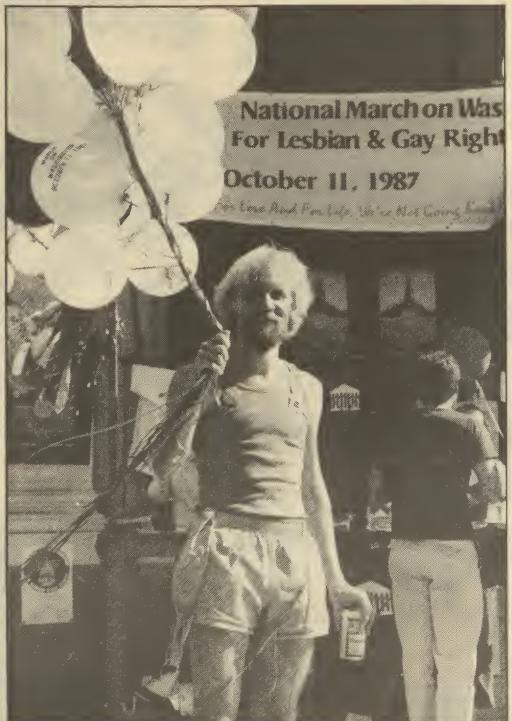
As expected, thousands of people turned out for the Castro Street Fair. While I don't think any attendance records were broken that day, the weather set a record that soared into the hundreds and there were bare torsos galore all over with booths, entertainment, and 80 gallons of sweat. The Janus Society got a big crowd for their Erotic Art Exhibition and the Tatiana Drag Show at Kimo's swished to high applause.

Down at the Baybrick Inn, their final weekend of existence ended on a high note with hordes of people on hand for the big closing bash. In the Big Apple, the monthly revival parties at the Anvil got underway against last Saturday with cha-cha'ing galore and a big leathery crowd.

All around our town, in spite of the big shindigs going on, hundreds prepared (or left already) for the big March on Washington, civil disobedience, leather caucuses, and functions galore.

If you thought it was busy earlier this year, it looks like the pace has accelerated as magnificent pastiche of activities await you this Fall.

My remarks about the dearth of Halloween news acted as a catalyst and I'm flooded with Halloween activities. Probably the most expensive one going is mayoral candidate John Molinari's Witching Hour Masquerade Ball and Auction on Friday, Oct. 30, at the Stanford Court Ballroom. It's only \$200 a head and includes cocktails, dinner, a "live" auction, and dancing to Walt Tolleson (who he?). Black Tie or Masquerade optional. They didn't say if there'd be any cash prizes for costumes, but you can call Jean Marie Pral, Michele Kelly Fogelman, or Stephanie Folder Reitzel at 775-2611 for the true dish. I don't think former Intl. Mr. Leather Scott Tucker can make this one. Hi Dennis



A reminder of the National March at the Castro Street Fair (Photo: S. Martin)

Collins: did you enjoy the cafe au lait last Sunday night?

Halloween Night Sanford Kellman, Randy Schiller, and Bradley The Wise will bring you their big "Knights in Shining Armor" Camelot Fantasy at the Gift-center Pavilion. It will be an evening of mystical celebration with more than \$2,000 in prizes for costume categories, i.e., Best Knight in Shining Armor, Best King of the Court, and (ah!) Best Queen of the Court, as well as the Best: Lady-in-Waiting, Dragon Slayer, Merlin, Dragon, Group

Effort, and onward. What's this going to cost you? Only \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Michael Garrett will spin (the records, that is) and I'm sure there'll be lots of action. It starts at 2100 and ends at 0600 hours, Sunday, Nov. 1. The Amazing Kozak (a magician) will perform and Danny Williams will MC. One more thing: if you can't go in theme, they'll be giving an "anything goes" costume award. I don't think Selix or Black & White can help you out with an armor suit!

If business, divorce proceed-



Lines formed outside the Baybrick during its last weekend (Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)



Sharon McNight gets a hand from her chiropractor at the Castro Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

ings, or some other trick of fate should land you in Los Angeles, you can always go to the 28th Annual GGRC Halloween Ball at the Hollywood Palladium Saturday, 24 Oct. They're giving away \$5,000 in cash for Best Male, Female Couple, Theme, and Production, and the tix are \$20 in advance or \$22 at the door for main-floor reserved seats and \$17.50 general admission. Oh yeah, GGRC means the Gay Girls Riding Club in printable parlance. You can charge it to your Visa, MC or Discover cards by calling (213) 659-0961. This production is in its 28th year and is definitely a Hollywood tradition. Around here it's the Exotic Erotic Ball (posters all over) which is neither, unless you want to be a token queer at a straight get-together.

Any other Halloween events will be duly noted either in this column or in a special section which is invariably written by Allen White.

The talented art of Eddie Kitson continues at Company Bar, 1319 California until Nov. 15 and the flawless works are going fast! Eddie is one helluva guy to donate one-half of the proceeds to the AIDS Emergency Fund!

Tomorrow night Byron Sickler celebrates his 50th with a soiree at the California Club from 1900 to 2300 with wining, dining and dancing, all to benefit Rita Rockett Productions (brunches at the AIDS wards). It's black tie optional and black leather ties qualify!

Those of you who have been around may remember when Hamburger Mary's was originally called the Dead End Bar (it was the last one on Folsom until the Folsom Prisoned on 15th). Mary's was half the size it is now and there was a laundromat on the corner of what is now the

(Continued on next page)



Rita Rockett brought her baby to the Castro Street Fair
(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

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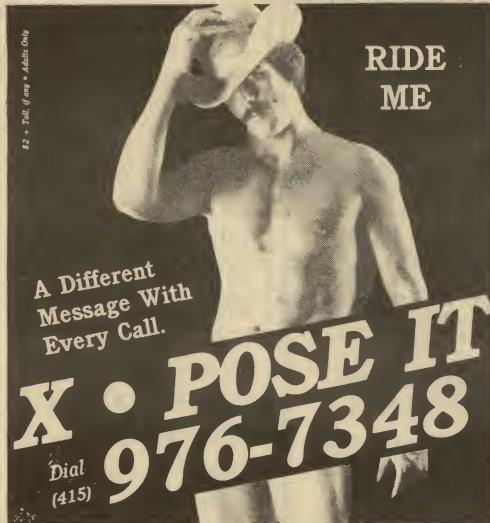
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Lauren Hewitt crowded for the Baybrick's last night

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)
other half of Mary's, Cissy's Saloon. They used to call it Cissy's Good Time Saloon, but why be redundant? The first major party there was the night that the 2nd Emperor of SF was crowned (Russ II) and the party raged from 2300 Saturday night until Noon the next day. That's when Jerry Jones was young and definitely hungry for success (wine and beer only). Well, Cissy's has a liquor license now and they're meaning to recapture the old days with a wild party on Tuesday, 20 Oct., beginning at 1930 hours. Naturally Dale Rideout and Rose will supervise. Some 800 invitations are in the mail already, and Cissy's will be

reborn with lots of bubbly and dancing with a DJ from a major, repeat, major radio station. (They didn't say if it was AM or FM.) Hope to see you all there!

Theatre Rhino presents the premiere performance of Noel Grieg's *Poppies* beginning Fri., Oct. 16 at 2030 hours, through Nov. 15. Don't miss it!

The Cal Eagles M/C is having its Autumn Stampede Oct. 24-25 at the Triple R up at the RushRiv; the \$40 fee includes lodging and a cocktail party, which I suppose will lead to a lot of grab-ass later on. The bikers depart the SF-Eagle at 1000 hrs that day. If you need/want more info, call their hotline at 586-9933 for more details. I haven't heard if the Cheaters are going to do their President's Convention this year or not yet—are you reading this, Rocky?

As for the Corresponding Secretary of the Year, the breakdown is as follows: Cal Eagles 11; CMC 9; Cycle Runners 8; GDI's 8; Warlocks 7; Constantines 7; Golden Gate Guards 7; and on down.

Don't forget the Golden Dildeaux Awards, Mr. South of Market, CMC Carnival, and Folsom Follies coming your way before the year is out!

DISH TURNS TO SLUSH, THEN MUSH, THEN SHUSH

Ever wonder what your favorite bartender has in his closet? You'll get a chance to find out when the All-Bartender Rum-mage Sale takes place at the Powerhouse Sat., Oct. 17, from 1100 to 1700 hours. Ed Gabet turns the place wide open for the sale, which will benefit C.U.A.V. and Coming Home Hospice. Jeff at the Powerhouse says anything not sold will be given to the Tavern Guild Thrift Store. You bartenders can leave your stuff at Mister S Leathers and if you have large items, call first for delivery that morning.

Talk about evil queens! Joe Taylor, who used to run the leather shop at the rear of the Ramrod, was in town a cuppa weeks ago and about six of his friends almost had seizures when they saw him alive and well. It seems as though some unsavory (and unknown) evil bitch queen had been spreading the word that Joe had died of AIDS. This is one of the sadder aspects of the epidemic—persons falsely reporting deaths of other people who are alive and well. Joe Taylor is alive and well and living in Los Angeles after a stint in the South. Just

(Continued on next page)



John Molinari sure enjoyed his pizza at the Castro Street Fair last Sunday
(Photo: S. Martin)

She Is One of the Boys

Vera Carp Announces Mayoral Candidacy

San Franciscans were bombarded last week with truck-mounted billboards, bumper stickers, buttons, and campaign signs bearing the slogan, "She Is One of the Boys," as social and civic leader Vera Carp from Tuna, Texas, launched her mayoral candidacy with an extensive outdoor billboard and sign campaign.

Carp, who is also campaigning with the slogan "Please Read My Lips," has guaranteed that if elected Mayor she will at no future date apply for the position of City Attorney.

Carp formally leaked the news of her candidacy at 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 4, from the stage of the Castro Street Fair. At that time, she assured the crowd that her campaign had the full approval of her husband Quentin, and introduced her cam-

paign manager, the Rev. C. Spikes, whom she praised warmly, noting she had to insist he put her name on the billboards.

She also stated for the record that her first two official acts as Mayor would be to decree the USS Missouri be birthed in the Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, and to appoint Tuna, Texas the "Sister City" of San Francisco, bringing the SF-Sister City total to an even 480.

Spikes noted to the assembled that his candidate is backed by all the fat cats, that she is a committed wheeler-dealer, and that all her bank loans are in good order. Carp left the stage with her campaign cry, "I Am Not a Bimbo!"

Members of the public wishing further information on the Vera Carp for Mayor Campaign should call 668-TUNA. •

Frameline Focuses On Gay Video

Frameline Presents, an anthology program of lesbian and gay video, screens every other Thursday on Viacom Cable 25 in San Francisco. Two editions of *Frameline Presents* will be shown in October.

The Oct. 8 program begins with a *Virtual Cockpits of Tomorrow*, a provocative dance/performance short about male behavior. Following *Cockpits* is *Framed Youth*, in which cheeky British lesbians and gays take to London's streets to confront peoples' views on homosexuality.

The Oct. 22 *Frameline Presents* begins with video shorts including *Sick*, Oakland video artist Cecelia Dougherty's nutty ruminations on the origins of illness. *Lifestyle Update*, a magazine format show on lesbian and gay topics, concludes the Oct. 22 show. •

AIDS Awareness Programming

October is National AIDS Awareness Month, and several cable channels have programming designed to educate people about AIDS.

Oct. 9 on the Discovery Channel (channel 33) there will be a show aired at 10:30 p.m. called "On the Brink: An AIDS Chronicle." The documentary features experts in the field of AIDS research, including co-founders of the AIDS virus, Dr. Robert Gallo of the National Cancer Institute and Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute.

Oct. 12 on Home Box Office (channel 28) there will be a show aired at 8 p.m. called "AIDS: Everything You And Your Family Need To Know... But Were Afraid To Ask?" Hosted by U.S. Surgeon General Dr. C. Everett Koop, the show will provide straightforward answers to the most-asked questions on AIDS.

Oct. 15 on Lifetime (channel 8) there will be a show at 6 p.m. called "Dying For Love." It is a documentary that provides a rare, intimate glimpse of the day-to-day lives of women living with AIDS. •

NGRA Plans Dance Party After March

National Gay Rights Advocates is pleased to announce that it will host "Dancing in D.C.," a gala dance party, featuring entertainment by Thelma Houston, Gwen Guthrie, and Nona Hendryx.

Harvey Fierstein will emcee and Robbie Leslie will be the DJ for the event which will be held at the Washington Hilton Ballroom on Sunday, Oct. 11 from 8 p.m.-1 a.m. The party will follow the March on Washington.

There is a limited amount of tickets, so order now. Tickets for "Dancing in D.C." will be \$30 in advance or \$35 on the day of the event. Tickets are available at any Ticketron outlet. You may also call Teletron at 1-800-233-4050.

Free Shows!!!

Theatre Rhinoceros needs ushers for its shows. Ushers volunteer 45 minutes of their time and then see the show for free! Contact Laura at the Theatre Rhinoceros box office (861-5079) to sign up. •

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

thought you leather mavens would like to know. Call me if you want his address and/or phone number.

The Pigs in Paradise (AKA gay cops and deputies) are having a "Pig Out" at the Rawhide II Sunday, Oct. 18, with a beer bust and food and hosted by Ray Chalker. The fee is only \$7 and they're already planning a big Tea Dance at Dreamland on Sunday, Nov. 15, but more on that later after Dean Gross fills me in on the details.

I wouldn't say everyone's getting ready, but at least one pro-

minent leather dude I know is obsessed with his long blond wig, some of which I think got stuck in this typewriter! And so many people have threatened to go out in drag this year, it may be a riot, even for those who are anti-drag.

Furthermore, a former heavy-duty leather title holder is thinking of throwing his hat in the ring for Empress! Deena Jones and Vinny may not be amused, but everyone else is!

Hey, have you been to Bingo on Thursdays? Get on down there! The volunteers are all doing a great job!

Til next week, then, keep your legs crossed, stay out of the bushes, and support all the benefits coming your way! •



Vera Carp (second from right) threw her hat into the ring for the run for mayor of S.F. at the Castro Street Fair Sunday
(Photo: R.S. Morris)

"We'll be alone in the steamroom."



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by Will Snyder

The heat from the overhead lamp was intense. Sweat was everywhere. Three young men positioned themselves in front of a couch.

They slowly removed their shirts. They kicked off their shoes. They silently stripped their socks. They unbuttoned their 501s...one button...two buttons...three...four...and finally five. Their bodies were free of their clothes.

A curly-haired blond sat on the middle of a well-worn couch. Another blond reclined on the couch, his arm brushing against the other man. A third man with a dark brushcut got down on his knees, his buttocks gleaming under the overhead lights. He buried his head in the lap of the second blond.

But then, he turned his head away from the genitals of the second blond. He looked away with a far-away look of melancholy.

For the next half-hour, the three young men barely moved. No genitals were aroused. No kisses were exchanged. There was only an occasional wiggling of a toe.

They were just three young men on a couch in a loft somewhere South of Market.

This is just one new story in a different kind of Naked City. It's called the Gay Men's Sketch Class.

This was a special night for the sketch class. Organizers Mark

More Than Just Naked Sketch For Life Raises \$ For Emergency Fund



Entwined on the couch

(Photo: J. Dusch)

Chester and John Hoover were holding a benefit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. The turnout of 40 artists was far more than the normal turnout of good or hopeful artists.

"We raised \$280 for the AIDS Emergency Fund," said Chester. "We realize that's not a big

amount next to some contributions, but it is \$280 more than the Fund had before tonight."

Chester said the models donated their time during the benefit. That theme seems consistent. The reason Chester and Hoover started the class in the first place was because of their

belief in the Community.

"One of the things I noticed because of AIDS was that there were many places gay men used to go to that have closed down," Chester said. "Some new areas did open up, but I looked around and saw no place for gay artists."

With that in mind, Chester and Hoover began holding sketch classes in Chester's South-of-Market flat last March. The two men emphasized that no one is ever turned away for lack of funds. Hoover said that ten to 15 people usually show up to sketch the nude men. He smiled at the larger turnout and hoped the artists would notice what he considers the positive aspects of the class.

"It's not a 'class' in the usual sense of the word," Hoover said. "Why is it a good class? Well, because it's *not* instructional. There are no instructors telling you what to do. You just go ahead and do what you want to do."

Another positive side to the class, according to Hoover, is the variety of models.

"We have black models, white models, Latino models, Asian models. We even had a dwarf model for us."

The quality of the art was best reflected in the varying results of watching Bruce Beaudette, Lor-

ence Griffin, and Bill Strubbe intertwine their bodies on a couch. One artist caught Beaudette's far-away look. Other work wasn't as polished, but was done with enthusiasm. Some of it was sketched slowly and carefully on the best paper an art store can supply.

And then, there was the passion of Michael Goepferd. He was working enthusiastically with multi-colored chalk on wrapping paper which probably would have felt just as much at home in an old-fashioned dry goods store.

Goepferd had a side angle to the couch. He drew his models like some photographers take close-ups. The faces were big and expressive. The intertwining of the limbs was easy to see. Goepferd, a native of West Berlin who came to San Francisco ten months ago, clearly was having fun with his work. He said he appreciated the sketch class.

"This class is just what San Francisco needs," he said. "We need the alternative from the 'academic' way of holding art classes. We want to experience a way to draw new poses with erotic possibilities. It's easier to do it here without the structure."

The models seem to appreciate what they're seeing from the easels. Griffin, who has modeled for one year at San Jose State University and Sonoma Junior College, praised the class. "This is my fourth time here," he said, "and I must say that the class is good. There has been lots of improvement."

Beaudette, the model with the brushcut, hasn't had as much of a chance to judge the work, but he's finding it meaningful anyway.

"I am a part-time photographer," he said, "so this is just another kind of self-expression for me."

Strubbe, on the other hand, hinted that his modeling has taken on a spiritual nature for him lately.

"When I'm posing, I'm meditating most of the time," he said. "I've been into meditation exercises lately. I've been thinking about a close friend of mine in New Zealand who has AIDS."

Chester added that through November the sketch class will meet at donated gallery space at the Gregory Ghent Gallery, 301 8th St. (Call 621-6294 for details.)

Hoover's final emphasis reflected the overall attitude of the Gay Men's Sketch Class.

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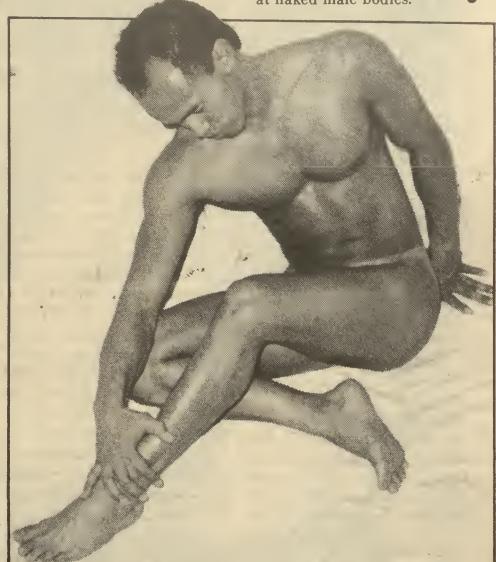
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Frameline Gets \$12K Grant

Frameline, a non-profit lesbian and gay media arts organization and sponsor of the San Francisco International and Gay Film Festival, has received a \$12,000 grant from the California Arts Council for 1987-88. The 1987-88 grant to Frameline is the fourth the organization has received

from the Arts Council and is double the amount awarded last year.

Frameline has established the San Francisco Community Film Fund to match the California Arts Council grant. For information on becoming part of the Community Film Fund, contact Frameline at 861-5245. •

Rhino

(Continued from page 26)

five minutes nobody's going to be saying, "Gee, this is strange."

CASTING CONTROVERSY

At the same time, Dixon acknowledges, the alternative-casting issue has already fueled controversy over whether heterosexual actors ought to be allowed to take parts in Rhino productions. "I tend to believe," Dixon explains, "that straight people who come to audition and who take parts have to be right in their political thinking or they wouldn't do it. Clearly, we can't ask people their sexual preference before we allow them to

Mama

(Continued from page 26)

husband. For his part, he is standing by her, providing "vital emotional support."

Of course since Stein's own child is still a baby, art rather than life experience provides the foundation of the play's title relationship. But the honesty and accuracy of the script have been tested by the cast. "I didn't want this to be an airhead project," Stein says, explaining that she has paid close attention to the gay people who are acting in and otherwise working on the production. She is glad that the play has become something real enough that many of the people working on it want their parents to see it.

"It's been interesting working with these people," Stein says, "and getting to know them . . . seeing how they relate to one another as lovers, how they relate to their mothers, and to their craft."

Cathartic drama doesn't come in sweet doses for the artist who creates it, so even though *When Mama Comes* is a romance and a comedy, Stein feels that some caveats are in order. "It's an earthy piece in its language and material," she explains, suggesting that it probably isn't appropriate theatre for children "under 15, or 14, or whatever."

We are also "warned" that there is no villain. One female character tries to seduce (cure?) one of the gay men, but, in the playwright's view, it would be wrong to see her as "a complete snake." After all, one of the central themes of the play is the possibility of continuing commitment to a gay relationship, and that requires—on stage as in life—some tests of the strength of the committed bond.

The play deals realistically with situations faced by ordinary people, gay and straight. Maybe that is why Stein has chosen to call the piece "an obnoxious new comedy?" In any case, obnoxious or not, *Mama* certainly has plenty of opportunities to be both thought-provoking and funny.

When Mama Comes, directed by David Pellegrini, runs Oct. 15-31 at Studio Eremos. Costumes are welcome at the closing performance on Halloween. Call 621-8875 for tickets and information. •

audition. Eliminating that kind of discrimination is one of the things our community has always fought for." (Or, as Lily Tomlin once remarked about her role as a heterosexual housewife in *The Incredible Shrinking Woman*, "You don't have to be one to play one.")

As Theatre Rhinoceros settles into its tenth anniversary season, the debate continues about the purposes and goals of gay theatre in what might be called the post-revolutionary world of today's astonishingly diverse lesbian and gay community. With the addition of Dixon to Rhino's staff, that debate is certain to be both lively and productive. •

Doom Folk

(Continued from page 28)

whose disfellowship from the exclusive, apocalyptic spiritual brotherhood of the Witnesses provides plot B in *Doom Folk*.

The two stories braided together in the way Aylesworth does such things are intended to explore a theme of exclusion. Adoptees are excluded from their natural families as gay people often are. Raymond Franz, everyone tolerant of difference, and all gay people are excluded from the Witness' heaven as are most of Earth's five billion inhabitants.

As "the official sponsors of the end of the world" (Aylesworth's words), the Witnesses provide a panoramic backdrop for the idea, drama, and effects of exclusion. As the West Coast's most successful blender of dramatic content with contemporary, "transformational" theatre, Aylesworth is the ideal playwright-performer to explore the subject.

Peter Newton, who appeared with Aylesworth in both *Bohemian Grove* and *The Matador Club*, will provide an original musical score for *Doom Folk*, and perform it live. Aylesworth will play all "20-plus" characters himself.

Doom Folk opened Oct. 2 at The New Performance Gallery, 863-9834. •

Irma Vep

(Continued from page 28)

happened, he barely touched down in the Windy City before he was on his way to San Francisco.

Both of the guys are glad to be in The City, and they're hoping for a long run of *Irma Vep*, but if the show does go on for a long time, Baron will have to take a break in a few months. He won several nice prizes on *Wheel of Fortune*, including a trip to Australia. That episode was broadcast just last Thursday evening. Aulino didn't do nearly as well when he was on *20,000 Pyramid*, but the interesting thing is that he was on the show. After all, how many two-man plays have you ever seen performed by two TV game show veterans?

It seems the mirror between the lives of Jamie Baron and Tom Aulino has been in place for a while, you see, but we are warned that it will become a tricky, distorting mirror when we see them onstage together in *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. •

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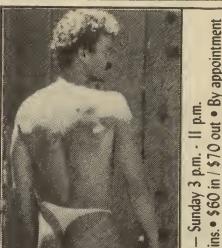
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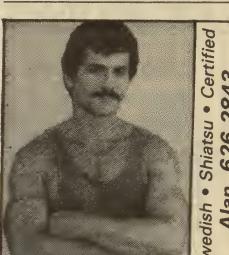
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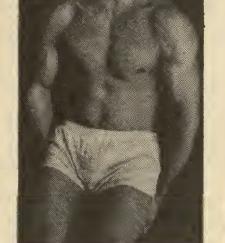
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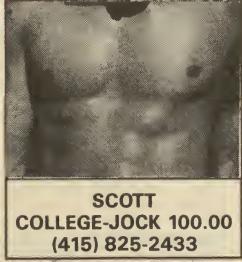
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Tony and the Hot Shots

Gay Basketball Team Going for the Gold in 1990

by Mary Richards

Every Friday night the Earl Palthenghi gymnasium at Belvedere and Waller streets comes alive to the sounds of basketball. The Hot Shots are on the boards, sending balls whizzing through the air, and making that small facility reverberate with the ear-splitting squeals of sneakers grinding against wood.

The group organized for the first time a year ago, shortly after Gay Games II, and for the 30 or so players involved, Friday nights now have a special place on their calendar.

We persuaded Tony Jasinski, whose idea it was to bring the players together, to sit out a few games and tell us more about their history and their plans for the future.

For Tony, it started out in Boston, where he was part of a basketball team which traveled from that city to compete in Gay Games I.

"When our team from Boston won the Silver, we were proud of ourselves—we had accomplished a lot," Tony said. "We brought a team all the way from the other end of the country and we almost won. It was very exciting. Now, in San Francisco, I hope to put a competitive team on the court. I want to help form a team that would go in the next Gay Games."

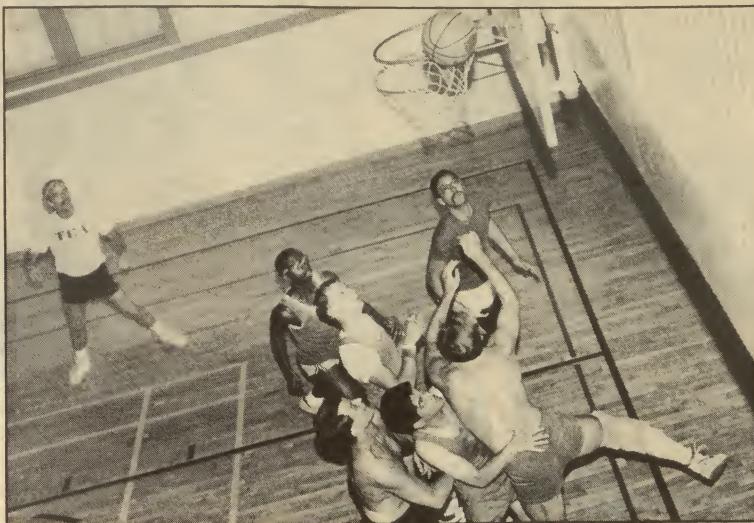
Playing for the joy of the game is one thing, and playing to win against another team which has been coached and has played competitive basketball for a few seasons is another. The Hot Shots have been playing for the joy of it—next year they want to start playing for the Gold.

Tony expresses exactly what he has in mind: "The team that's here on Friday is not competitive. The team that I want to put on a court with a coach will have to be the best team we can get in San Francisco. I want it to be a team that can beat any other gay team from any other city, and I want to be able to brag about it. It's not hostility, it's the thrill of winning."

"Next year we will be playing a tournament in San Diego in February for President's Day weekend," Tony said, "and we'll be playing against San Diego and Los Angeles and a team from Denver." The Hot Shots now have more people willing to play than they can accommodate, but to be competitive they will need that special spark that can only be provided by one person: a coach.

"We want someone who has coaching experience," Tony said.

"A coach has a real sense of what to do with a basketball team. There's a lot to do out there rather than just send in your five best players. You need someone who doesn't know anyone on the team, who's detached. And you need someone who has done coaching in the past. We don't necessarily need a gay coach; we need a coach who would like to work with a gay team. A woman coach would certainly be a possibility. We want a complete-



The Hot Shots have hot practices

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

ly new person who would be excited about the experience, who would like to spend two or three nights a week with us for six weeks and maybe for the long term, someone who wants to travel with the team and enjoys the camaraderie."

For a group that started out as strangers, the Hot Shots have come a long way. Friendships have been formed through their Friday night playing, and the team includes men from their 20s to upper 40s who are lawyers, salesmen, and computer people. Player Dennis Martinez is a civil engineer: "I read about this team in the B.A.R.," he said. "I joined a year ago. I have always loved basketball and so when I heard about it, it seemed like the best of both worlds—basketball and a gay social group. When I was growing up I never envisioned that I could be both gay and a basketball player."

Besides organizing a team for the forthcoming Gay Games, Tony Jasinski is interested in having the Hot Shots play against a women's team.

"I would like to do that for a charity event," Tony said. "I think it would appeal to a large segment of the community and the uniqueness of it would make it interesting. I'd be curious to see how we would do—I respect the ability of the women who play. The women's team in San Francisco won a gold medal in the Gay Games and I'd like to get in contact with them and talk about doing this event."

"I don't know if we would need special rules," he said. "Men tend to be taller than women. Maybe we would want teams of equal height. But other than that I'm sure the competition would be welcomed. I've never heard of men playing women in basketball."

One of the rules of play for the Hot Shots is that no hostility is allowed on the court. Tony speaks from experience: "One of the

aggressive game. We don't allow it. If someone is aggressive, I'll take them aside the first time and tell them it's not permitted. If they're aggressive the second time, I probably will tell them not to come back."

The Hot Shots hope that 1988 is a turning point for their team, and considering the caliber of the players, their enthusiasm and plans for improvement, that could be a reality. It will depend to a great extent on whether they are successful in their search for a coach.

The gymnasium where they play is not equipped to hold spectators, but the Hot Shots invite people who would be interested in coaching to come down any Friday evening between 7 and 9 p.m. to watch what they can do, and to meet the team. It's time to start planning for that Gold Medal in Vancouver.

Tony Jasinski and the Hot Shots can be reached by calling 621-2710.

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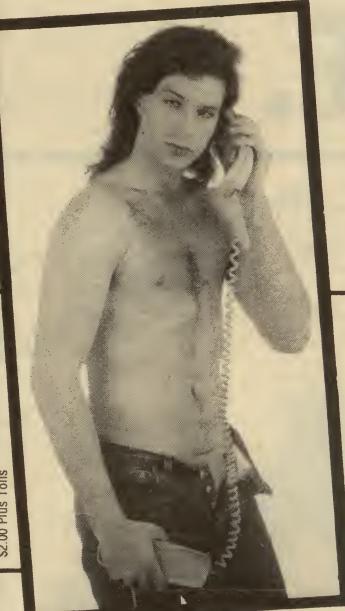
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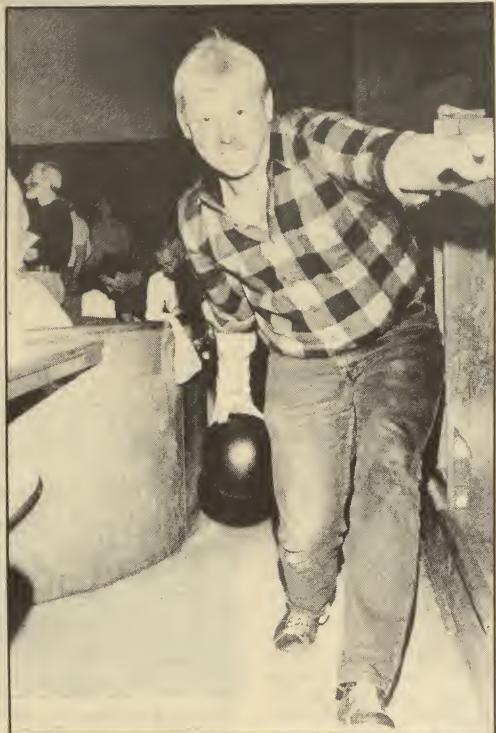
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Hot Streak!

Don Gambell Puts Together
A String of 600s



Don Gambell

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

by Richard McPherson

Don Gambell began bowling only about 16 months ago, and last Winter maintained a 159 average. That may not sound like much to shout about, except that this past six weeks he's been bowling out of his mind!

About a month ago, Gambell bowled his first 600 series in the Wednesday Tavern Guild League at Park Bowl, a blazing 644 three-game series, with a 242 high game. The next three consecutive weeks he shot three more 600 series in league play.

In the middle of all this he bowled in the Division I (165 average and under) Singles event of "The Scratch" at Park Bowl and shot a 949 score for five games in the first squad. He came back a few hours later to bowl 1005 in the second squad. That's a 195 average for five games that day. Six of his ten games were 200's: 246, 222, 222, 214, 202 and 201.

These scores were sufficient to give him a second and fifth place finish in the final standings, being the only bowler to finish in the money twice in the same event. He was also a member of the Division I first place team: "Bad Gns Bare."

Just when he was beginning to think that he was on a lucky streak at Park Bowl only, he went to Las Vegas to compete in an IGBO (International Gay Bowling Organization) tournament on Sept. 4-6 and shot a 600-plus scratch series in the doubles event.

And that's not all. Gambell, who bowled on three leagues this summer, two at Park Bowl on Wednesday and Thursday and one at Japantown on Monday nights, was on the first place team in all three leagues. He finished with a 169 average in one league and 171 in another.

What's Don's impression of all this?

"I keep thinking to myself, 'you'd better enjoy this, because it's not going to last long,'" he laughed.

He attributes his sudden improvement to going back to the bowling basics. "I tried to get too fancy with my style and delivery for a while," he said. But he attributes his main overall improvement to his bowling buddies. "They provide sort of a bowling support group. We keep bolstering each other, giving tips and encouragement," he said.

It's certainly true that bowlers can assist teammates or friends in spotting and correcting problems, such as rushing the foul line, dropping shoulder, etc.

"My major goal now," he said, "is to be a consistent bowler. I'd rather be able to bowl right around my average than shoot a 240 and a 120 game in the same night, which I did a few weeks ago. I'd also like to be able to pick up the ten pin more often."

Gambell, age 47, picked up his first bowling ball about 16 months ago when he went bowling with a friend. "I really enjoyed it and decided to join a summer league a month later," he said, "I remember that I was having difficulty getting on a team in a gay league so I created my own team with a group of friends."

"I still remember my first night of league bowling," he recalls. "We were all very nervous and weren't so much concerned about our own scoring as much as not screwing up the people on the lanes next to us. But I messed up a bowler anyway. I walked up at the same time as Hunter Baumen (a proficient Japantown bowler), even though I knew I shouldn't." Needless to say he was embarrassed.

(Continued on next page)

'Hawaii' Kicks Off Winter Sked

by Richard McPherson

At Japantown, all leagues have completed their summer season save the Sunday Reno league (please), which still has a week remaining. Then they're off to "the biggest little city in the world" to partake of all the action it has to offer (which I hope is a lot since they've spent the whole summer waiting for it). The two big individual scorers during the past couple of weeks in that league are Darrell Thomas (164 avg.), who shot 216, 199, 224 for a 639, to take over high scratch series for that league, and Ron Smola (157 avg.), who missed the 600 mark by one pin shooting 185, 202, 212 for a 599.

The Hawaii League, which bowls on Friday nights is already into its winter league season by three weeks, making it the first league to start the new winter season. You see, they need a long season because they pay extra money each week toward a Hawaiian vacation, which they embark on at the end of the season, and they want to spread the payments out as long as possible. . . . a great idea, huh? Bill Niemczyk (156 avg.), had the only game in that league over a 210 with a 213.

The Women's league was the first to begin the season at Park Bowl, and I hear that already some big scores have been shot. You'll read about it here as details become available.

For your consideration . . . Dan Burley has created a proposal which he has submitted to all league bowlers which will involve us more directly in AIDS fund-raising efforts. The idea is to raise league fees by 25 cents per bowler, per night, at both Park



Hangin' on the lanes at Park Bowl

(Photo: Photo Graphics/Darlene)

Bowl and Japantown Bowl, with 100 percent of these monies directed to AIDS charities. With 900 gay league bowlers contributing weekly, \$6,000 can be raised by the end of the winter season for donation purposes. Each league would be able to choose which charity will receive their contributions and there would be a special committee set up to oversee their collection and distribution of funds. Sounds like a good idea to me. League bowlers will be voting on this proposal very soon.

At the 4th Annual Cincinnati Tri State Invitational Tournament (CINTIT) held in Illinois the weekend of Sept. 26 and 27, San Francisco was solely represented by Randy Peterson who finished on the winning

team. The five-man team, which won \$1,000 for their efforts was composed of bowlers from all over the country. They shot a handicap score of 1,001, 949 and 1,099 for a 3,049 total.

High roller on the team was Steve Smolen, a 201 average from L.A. who shot a 692 scratch three-game score. Smolen, I'm told, shot a 1,982 scratch score in all-events (team, doubles and singles combined score), a 230 average for nine games, to run away with first place in that category.

Peterson said that the team's win was no credit to him, since he didn't bowl well himself, but hey, his bank account doesn't care.

This year's CINTIT, which was sponsored by IGBO (International Gay Bowling Organization), drew 240 bowlers from all over the U.S. and Canada.

Apologies to anyone, who, like me, showed up at Cafe San Marcos, Friday, Oct. 2 for Casino Night, the SFNTIT '87 fundraiser. It was postponed at the last minute. A future date for the event will be announced.

The SFNTIT '87 committee is meeting weekly now. Watch future columns for updates and announcements.

The new winter bowling season now is officially under way. Good luck to all. Let's make it a good one!

Gambell

(Continued from previous page)

Despite the nervousness, he recalls his first few weeks of league bowling fondly. "I still remember how helpful and friendly the other bowlers were. They made us feel comfortable and were genuinely nice. That made a big impression on me, and is probably one of the reasons why I stayed with the sport. Now when I see other new bowlers I try to do the same.

"I feel there are many gay people, like myself, who did not compete in sports in high school and bowling is an activity which can provide the opportunity to overcome that negative experience," he said. Indeed, kindness and support are really appreciated by new bowlers.

He joined a gay league primarily for the social intercourse. He feels, like many bowlers, that it's a great alternative to "hanging out" in bars.

"Another attraction for me about gay leagues is that there is a great cross section of age groups, including men and women; people I would never meet and get to know in other social settings. Bowling is great because there are no age limits or prejudices," he said.

For Don, gay bowling is an enjoyable experience. "I don't know about straight leagues, but humor and joking around is one of the best parts of these leagues. No one in these leagues lets you get away with taking the game overly serious," he laughs. "People have accused me several times of being too serious when I bowl; I may look serious but actually I'm having a lot of fun."

JAPANTOWN BOWL COMMUNITY LEAGUES BOWLING

Team Standings

SUNDAY RENO LEAGUE (Week 14 of 16)

	W	L
1. Fishes N	34	22
2. M. D. Squared	33	23
3. We Know!	32	24
4. Natalie Deadwoods	31	25
5. Andy's Angels +	31	25
6. Split Ends	30	26
7. Cowboys & Indians	26	30
8. Love Potion No. 9	26	30
9. Carmas Guys Tw	25	27
10. Mary's Boys	24	32
11. Mixed Company	23	33
12. Strange Interlude	17	35

MONDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Final)

	W	L
1. Balls to Spare	44	20
2. Pendulum 9	40	24
3. Wayne's Boys	40	24
4. Tropical Fruit	39	25
5. The P.I.P.S.	38	26
6. Lambda Capital	34 1/2	29 1/2
7. Rawhids	34	30
8. SPCA's Doggie Bowl	21 1/2	42 1/2
9. Grumblers	21	39
10. Missing Persons	4	56

TUESDAY COMMUNITY LEAGUE (Final)

	W	L
1. Giraffe	42	22
2. Still Hoping	42	22
3. Lois Lanes	40	24
4. Kimo's Kows	38	26
5. D'Jets	37	27
6. Summer Boys	37	27
7. Bobby Pins	36	28
8. Twin Peaks	33	31
9. Split Sisters	33	31
10. Moby Dick Wailers	33	31
11. Madamettes	32	32
12. C.S.A. Low Hangrs	31	33
13. Stiff Competition	27 1/2	36 1/2
14. Dina Soars	21 1/2	42 1/2
15. Angora Debs	19	41
16. Team #16	0	64

HAWAII VACATION LEAGUE (Week 2 of 36)

	W	L
1. Lois' Lane	7 1/2	0 1/2
2. Tropical Teezers	7	1
3. Hard Times	7	1
4. Urasia Dragon	6	2
5. Haleakala Hookers	5 1/2	2 1/2
6. Moby Dick Wailers	5	3
7. Ball Busters	3 1/2	4 1/2
8. Bulldoggettes	3	5
9. Team #6	3	5
10. Viking Twins	3	5
11. Hi Bound	2	6
12. Easy Leis	2	6
13. Team #10	1	7
14. Eruptions	3 1/2	7 1/2

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POOL

On The Championship Trail

by Lauren Ward

Twenty-eight hopeful players turned out at Park Bowl Thursday for the first of eight qualifying tournaments which lead up to the S.F. Pool Association's tenth 9-ball Championship.

Thanks to a generous donation from Bracco Distributing, this year's overall champion will collect a cash prize of \$200 in addition to the traditionally handsome trophies. All 16 of the eventual finalists will be guaranteed cash awards.

Going the distance Thursday and gaining a berth in the finals were E.Z. from the Deluxe Ducks and Ann Young of Elaine's Elites. E.Z. is a veteran player with many tournament victories to his credit, while Ann is playing her first S.F.A. season and her first 9-ball tournament.

The second qualifier took place Saturday at the Overpass. Lynn Westhoven of the Park Bowl Badasses and Cody Stevens of the Castro Station Cruisers survived the field and became finalists.

SFPA AIDS BENEFIT AUCTION

Now that Cody has qualified for the 9-ball finals he'll have more time to dedicate to coordinating the league's first charity auction. He's accepting donations on its behalf at his shop, "40/60," through October. It's located at 4071 18th St., phone 626-4060. We're soliciting donations of gift certificates, furniture, collectables, and the like, as well as volunteers. One of the charities to benefit will be Open Hand, with others to be announced. The auction will be held at the Cafe San Marcos Nov. 7, starting at 3 p.m.

After seven weeks of play, the current top ten out of 143 rated players are:

1. David Lee*	15/1	.938
2. Lauren Ward*	23/3	.885
3. Ron Barulich	14/3	.824
4. Tom Williamson*	23/5	.821
Antonio Rios*	23/5	.821
6. Phillip Jensen	12/3	.800
7. Charles Dossett	19/5	.792
8. Leo Emanor	17/5	.773
9. Joe Ankenbrandt	18/6	.750
Jim Russo	18/6	.750
*Division Leader		

SOFTBALL

Francis, Jerry, Jack And Donna For GSL Board

by Tom Vinedo

For the past several years, we have had a natural progression on the Gay Softball League Board as to who would be the next commissioner. This year is no different.

Francis Medeiros, current GSL assistant commissioner, is the logical choice to succeed Rick "Rita" Brattin. He has been on the board for four years and has been Rick's right-hand man for the past three years.

Not playing softball was a difficult choice, but Francis has resigned himself to that fact. Quite frankly, it's a rule that no longer serves its purpose and league members should begin to realize that.

Why Francis for the job? Well, he is dedicated to the league and knows all of the ins and outs. He knows who to call for favors and where to go for permits. His honesty and sincerity are unquestioned when it comes to the Gay Softball League.

Francis wants to be commissioner. He should be the commissioner.

Possibly the second most popular person in the GSL after "Rita" is Jerry Pepper of the Pilsner. Jerry was last year's secretary. Who could not see the hard work and dedication he gave to all of us over the past couple of weeks, especially last year? Not only is he an outstanding athlete, he is an outstanding human being.

We are fortunate to have Jerry in the league. We should honor him by electing him to the assistant commissioner's office by acclamation.

Jerry Schneek has decided to step down after two highly successful years as league treasurer. He is one of those people who goes along doing his job very quietly and without much fanfare.

Under Jim's leadership, not much money was spent without him asking where it was going and why. We all owe Jim a huge thank you for a job well done.

In keeping with that dedication, Jack LeMasters is seeking the treasurer's position. During the recently-concluded World Series, Jack was in charge of concessions and did an outstanding job. Two years ago, Jack won the first ever "Rita Award" as Rookie of the Year.

Jack is a relative newcomer to the GSL and thus, doesn't have any allegiance to anyone. He should be an independent thinker similar to Jim Schneek. We couldn't do much better than Jack.

Donna "Jane Fonda" Grecewicz is this corner's choice for secretary. It's about time we had a woman on the board. I can't think of anyone who reflects that "Rita" spirit better than our own Donna Jane. She will bring not a real woman's touch to the board, but also that little spark we have always had.

Some say Donna Jane is full of hell. Well, she is and thank the Lord for that. She proved during the World Series that she will do a super job. Unofficially, she was on three committees during the Series. She worked extremely hard.

It's time for a woman on the board. It should be Donna.

Those are my choices for the GSL Board. You can vote for the GSL Board at the Cafe San Marcos on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. You must be a league member to vote in this election.

The winter season of the GSL will begin on Sunday, Oct. 25 and will continue for about six to eight weeks. The field will hopefully be announced at the meeting.

See you at the meeting. •

Didactic Horniness

Safe Sex

by John Preston and Glenn Swann
New American Library / Plume, \$8.95

by Paul Reed

In the foreword to this book, John Preston presents a clear and interesting discussion of the role of safe-sex literature in the battle against AIDS. At a time when self-righteous ninnies are trying to force all sexuality back into the closet, Preston makes a case for both the instructive and physiologic value of safe-sex fantasy.

Incorrectly subtitled as "The Ultimate Erotic Guide," this book is largely a sexual memoir of Glenn Swann, the erotic star who has appeared in workshops and sex shows throughout the country as "Mr. Safesex," presenting lively discussion and demonstrations of just what safe sex is all about.

The book begins by telling how Swann discovered his "calling" to become Mr. Safesex, how he put together a program, educated himself, and then went on the road to promote safe sex. The book follows him on his national tour, recapping his many adventures along the way. Those adventures include learning the art of massage; becoming familiar with his own sensuality as opposed to simple genital sex; learning to open himself to new experiences by relating to people on a more sensitive level; and exploring his latent bisexuality in a short romance with a young woman.

As is the case with all safe-sex erotica — such as Preston's *Hot Living* or Max Exander's *Safe Stud* (which is essentially the same thing as this book, a safe-sex diary) — the didacticism rings through loud and all too clear.

But that's okay, because the level of horniness maintained is sufficient that we can overlook the non-erotic impact of the "instruction" — though that instructive impact is precisely the



most important thing about the book. And it is undoubtedly one of the main attractions of such a book. We want to be instructed in new ways of making love. We want to learn and be stimulated at the same time.

We want to change our fantasies because we have learned that our erotic impulses are not going to disappear in the face of AIDS. They're going to change, and we have been learning to

change with them.

In places like San Francisco and New York, a book like this will be read as an affirmation of what we've learned, and it might offer a new idea or two. But in places where the safe-sex message is just now being grappled with — in mainstream America for example, or in gay communities in parts of the U.S. more isolated from AIDS than the major cities — a book like this will have enormous impact. •

A Practical Book About AIDS

When Someone You know has AIDS:

A practical Guide
by Leonard J. Martelli, with Fran D. Peltz, C.R.C. and William Messina, C.S.W.

Crown Publishers; 237 pages; \$15.95 hardcover; \$9.95 paperback by Paul Reed

Of all the books out about coping with AIDS, this one is the most practical. Written for "carepartners" — the lovers, friends, and family who take care of a person with AIDS through the course of illness — this book details the many practical and emotional realities of the disease.

Step by step, the book takes you through the potential emotional, medical, and legal issues. It provides information on coping with the diagnosis, reaching out to friends and family, preserving health insurance, handling financial and legal matters, getting access to experimental and approved AIDS drugs, and coping with your friend's feeling and your own grief.

The book is filled with advice and case-history anecdotes, lending a personal note that is easy for the reader to identify with. Martelli writes: "These stories are here as an example, as vivid

testimony that you are not alone, that someone has been there before and that you, too, can help."

This is what makes the book such a valuable resource. Rather than focus on speculative issues or on impersonal facts about epidemiology, statistics and so on, this book focuses on the nitty-gritty problems of the many things involved in taking care of someone who is ill.

Anyone who has a friend or loved one who is sick, or who needs to understand the basic human needs of the AIDS community, can read this book for advice, knowledge, and even inspiration. It is enormously comforting to read about the experiences of others, to learn just what is involved at the one-on-one level of patient care.

The only problem with the book is that it's view does not include the possibility of an earlier, interdictive approach to AIDS.

When discussing whether or not the AIDS test is a valuable tool, the book states: "What the results of the test will tell you will make little difference, if you are living as you should be in the midst of this devastating crisis."

This is not the best advice, nor is it reflective of the latest thought about forestalling or avoiding developing AIDS. The fact that so many interdictive therapies now exist — from AZT to the many self-treatments such as A1721, naltrexone, DNCB, and so on — suggests that learning your HIV and immunological status can very possibly save your life, by allowing you to begin self-treatment or medical treatment at an early point in the illness.

But to be fair, this book is not about avoiding AIDS, nor is it a manual on how to manage one's emotional or physical health. It is a book about how to care for someone with AIDS, from diagnosis through death, and as such, it is a solid, good-spirited guide that everyone should read. •

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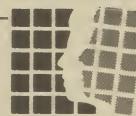
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